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C.A.I.T. TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO BOYCOTT CHINESE GOODS

The Confederation of All India Traders said it would launch a nationwide campaign to boycott Chinese goods from June 10

TRADERS WON'T SELL CHINESE PRODUCTS

The traders body's move comes amid border tensions between India and China. CAIT will not only motivate traders to not sell Chinese goods but also urge Indian consumers to buy indigenous products in place of Chinese goods. This way, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call 'Vocal for Local' will also be fructified, the traders' body said in a statement on Sunday

3,000 PRODUCTS ON CHOPPING BLOCK

CAIT's aim is to bring down import of Chinese goods by \$13 billion by December 2021. It has prepared a list of 3,000 products imported from China for which Indian substitutes are available. Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Sunday that talks with China will continue to resolve the Ladakh stand-off

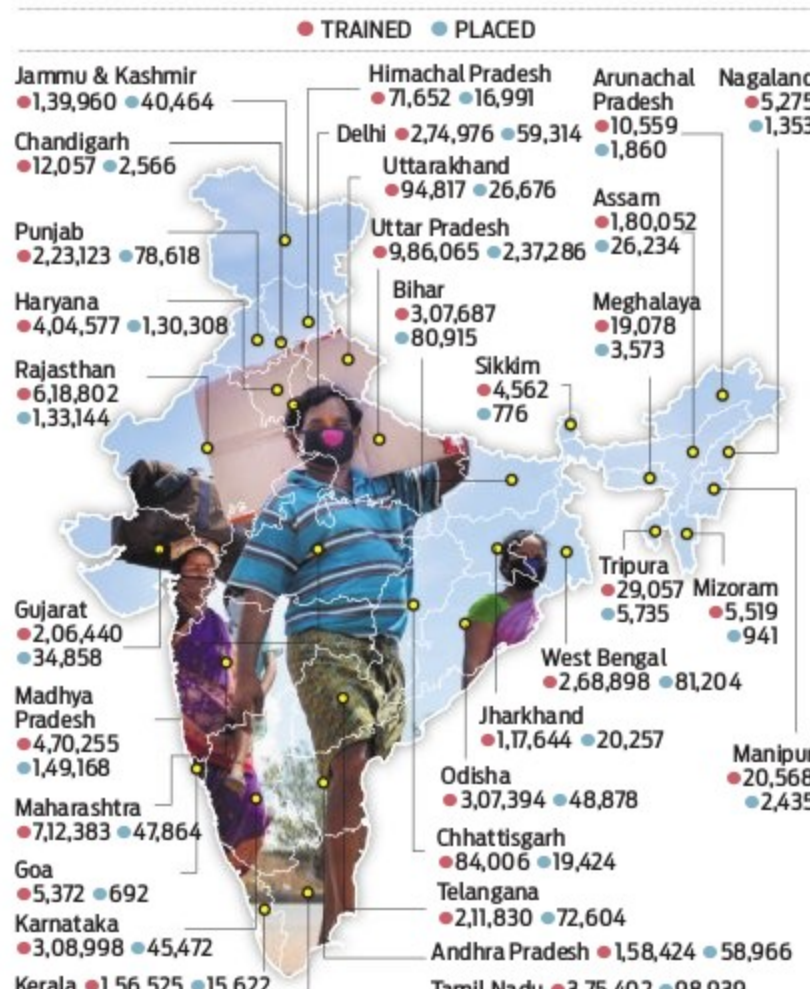


CLAIMS TO REPRESENT 7 CR TRADERS AND 40,000 TRADER ASSOCIATIONS

EXPRESS MAPS

Lakhs of youth aren't job-ready

Out of over 68 lakh youths trained under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Yojana, only 28 lakh got placement. A look at state-wise figures



JUST 23% OF SKILLING TRAINEES UNDER GOVT SCHEME GOT JOBS

68 lakh people have been given training so far, but only 15.5 lakh have got placement

KUMAR VIKRAM @ New Delhi

THE Skill India Mission, launched with much fanfare during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first term in 2015 to scale up skill development efforts across the country, could provide employment to only 23% of those who got training under its flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Yojana.

Since the scheme's inception, 68 lakh people have undertaken training but only 15.5 lakh managed to get placement, data show. During the period, ₹5,903.4 crore has been released to various agencies to

implement the scheme.

This is significant given the fact that many States have started skill mapping to provide employment to migrant workers who have returned to their native places. Over 60 lakh migrant workers have returned to States including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand during the lockdown period and the respective state governments have initiated skill mapping exercise to provide them with job opportunities.

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship



has been implementing the PMKVY for short-duration skill development training through its empanelled training centres across the country. According to data from the

ministry, 2,23,885 people were trained under PMKVY in 2016-17 but only 280 people could get placement.

Similarly, during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, 21.54 lakh, 18.94 lakh and 25.38 lakh youth were trained out of which only 4.53 lakh, 6.71 lakh and 4.23 lakh, respectively, could get placement. PMKVY offers training across 37 sectors encompassing over 1,800 job roles.

There are over 13,200 training centres across the country to implement PMKVY.

So far, as many as 304 training centres have been suspended for not complying with guidelines.

Nitish to lead NDA charge in Bihar polls: Amit Shah

Addresses virtual rally beamed across all 242 Assembly segments; says will get big majority

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ Patna

WITH the term of the Bihar government ending in November, BJP powerhouse Amit Shah on Sunday set the tone for the Assembly elections by putting all speculation to rest on the NDA leadership question, saying he was confident Chief Minister Nitish Kumar would get a fresh mandate to rule the state with two-thirds majority.

Addressing party workers and people of Bihar in his first virtual rally — spun as a non-political one but ticking all the political check boxes — Shah lauded the performances of Nitish and his deputy Sushil Kumar Modi in their battle against Covid-19. "This is not election talk, as some in the Opposition have sought to label it, but I am confident that the NDA, under Nitish Kumar ji, will form the government with two-thirds majority," he claimed.

The leadership question had recently popped up as the LJP, an NDA ally, had said it will go with the BJP's decision, while faulting Nitish's handling of

the pandemic.

At the virtual rally — beamed in all 242 Assembly segments of Bihar through 200 LCD screens and other modes — Shah saluted the corona warriors fighting the pandemic and acknowledged the contribution of others, including the police force.

Listing the steps taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar to contain the infection rate, Shah hurled barbs at the Opposition. "Some social organisations have advised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to speak loudly to draw votes. But here, the performance of the PM speaks louder than Rahul," he sarcastically said.

Ahead of the rally, the RJD has protested against it by clanging utensils to observe what it called the Garib Adhikar Diwas. Recalling that clanging was Modi's idea to thank frontline workers, Shah gave the RJD a left-handed compliment for "finally understanding and following the PM's earlier appeal".



TAKING THE ROAD HOME

A migrant family heads to board a bus at the Kempegowda Bus Station in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHIRAM BN

INDIA AHEAD OF SPAIN OR BEHIND IT?

FIFTH OR SIXTH?

While the Johns Hopkins tracker on Sunday showed India (2,54,242) in the fifth position on total case count worldwide, ahead of Spain (2,41,550), Worldometers appeared to have updated its table and placed the country at the sixth slot, with Spain (2,88,390) and Britain (2,86,194) taking the fourth and fifth spots, respectively

2,46,628

Total cases in India as on Sunday morning, according to Union Health Ministry data

1,20,406

Active cases of coronavirus so far, 9,971 of them testing positive in the last 24 hours

1,19,293

Total recovered patients, 5,220 of them declared cured in a day

48.37%

CURRENT RECOVERY RATE

6,929

Fatality count, up by 287 within 24 hours

Malls ready to re-open
Malls, shopping centres and religious places will re-open on Monday after more than two months of shutdown

YOUNGEST PATIENT RECOVERS

A five-day old, who was confirmed with Covid-19 in Kerala, has recovered at Paripally Medical College in Kollam and returned home but the mother is still under treatment

No grains in the pot, no money in the pocket, farmers face uncertain times

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @Bengaluru

SMALL farmer Nagaraju from Raichur, who cultivates paddy, is waiting for the economy to pick up before purchasing seeds for his next crop. While the price of a 75-kg sack of rice fell from Rs 1,300 to Rs 1,040 at the beginning of the lockdown, he told *The New Indian Express* that he is still looking for markets to sell his produce. He has not applied for the government aid scheme yet, but is hoping to work on neighbouring farms for wages again to sustain his family.

Like Nagaraju, lakhs of farmers in Karnataka do not have money to cultivate the Kharif crop and are staring at a bleak future. The Centre for Sustainable

Employment, Azim Premji University, in its recent Livelihoods Survey, has recorded that 85 per cent of rural farmers and 95 per cent of urban farmers across 12 states were unable to sell their produce at full prices during the lockdown. Several sold their produce at less than half the price, while many were forced to let their crops rot. About 60 per cent of agricultural casual wage workers in Karnataka alone have lost employment.

Researchers have found that government initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana or the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which would have alleviated the farmers from the crisis, did not reach a majority of them.



Apart from the reach of the schemes being poor, the researchers observed that there were insufficient jobs, many did not possess job cards and several did not even have bank accounts, nor did they apply for direct benefit transfer from

the government.

Women farmers, cultivators in Hyderabad-Karnataka and Mumbai-Karnataka regions, have faced the worst situation this year due to the two-month lockdown, including no access to markets for the crops they grew, said Muthuraju, one of the administrators of Jan Shakti Andolan. Farmers depended on rations from the government, apart from their own produce to stave off starvation, he pointed out.

Due to a fall in prices, where silk farmers got only between Rs 150 and Rs 350 for a kg of cocoons around Mandya and Bengaluru, several selling the worms to cultivators were out of jobs as the latter were hesitant to buy, said a sericulture expert.

CONTINUED ON: P5

80-yr-old man tied to hospital bed in MP over alleged dues

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

PICTURES of an elderly man's feet tied to a private hospital's bed for allegedly failing to settle his dues in Shajapur district, 160 km from Bhopal, created shockwaves in Madhya Pradesh. While patient Laxminarayan Dangi's daughter Sheela alleged on Friday that her dad was tied to the bed over non-payment of ₹11,270, the hospital management claimed the rope was meant to stop the old man from hurting himself as he was having convulsions. He was also being treated for electrolyte imbalance and intestinal blockage, the hospital claimed.

With the viral images indicating cruelty to the elderly, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan tweeted, "The culprits won't be spared. Strict action will be taken against them."

Corporator now flouts lockdown norms, arrested

ENS @Bengaluru

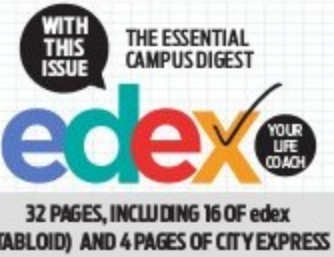
PADARAYANAPURA ward corporator Imran Pasha was arrested by the police on Sunday for violating lockdown norms. He was returning home in a procession soon after he was discharged from Victoria Hospital.

Pasha (40), who had tested positive for Covid-19 on May 29, was under treatment at the hospital. P3

EXPRESS READ

Petrol, diesel prices up by 60 paise per litre

New Delhi: Prices of petrol and diesel were increased by 60 paise per litre on Sunday. State-owned oil firms have restarted daily price revisions after an 82-day hiatus.



Kannada actor Chiranjeevi Sarja suffers cardiac arrest, dies at 39



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KANNADA action star Chiranjeevi Sarja died after a massive cardiac arrest in the city on Sunday. He was 39. The last rites will be held at 11 am on Monday at the farmhouse of his brother and actor Dhruva Sarja near Kanakapura. The untimely death of the actor has shocked his fans and the entire film industry.

Chiranjeevi Sarja, son of Vijay Kumar and Ammanni, was born into a family of popular film personalities. P5

TEACHING A LESSON

UGC: Resuming classes? Consult students, parents

This comes in the wake of demand from students for cancelling exams



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has directed universities across the country to gather opinion from students, parents and the teaching faculty on reopening educational institutions, conducting exams, and valuation of answer papers, during the 15-day leave for lecturers starting June 16.

This comes in the wake of severe demands for cancellation of examination from the students fraternity, who have flooded social media with their demands.

Earlier, the UGC and the MHA had directed colleges and universities in the state to try and wrap up the syllabus by conducting classes

online until June 15.

As the UGC and the government are expected to issue fresh guidelines for higher educational institutions by the end of this month, E V Ramana Reddy, additional chief secretary of higher education department stated that the state government will inform students and parents on the next course of action in the last week of June.

Meanwhile, colleges continue to take online classes, and lecturers resume duty at their institutes, continuing teaching from their labs and classrooms.

Bangalore University, for instance, has asked its teaching and non-teaching staff to be present at 100 per cent strength following state government's orders, as on May 30.

Drop university tag, UGC tells 14 institutions

ENS @Bengaluru

FOLLOWING the violation of SC guidelines, University Grants Commission has sent a missive to 14 institutes in the state. In a letter, UGC Joint Secretary Archana Thakur said that some of them were still using the word 'university' in their advertisement, website, email addresses, letter heads, hoardings, etc. "If universities don't stop doing so, necessary action will be initiated against them, in accordance with the UGC regulations 2019," she said in the letter.

Christ University, Indian Institute of Science, International Institute of Information Technology, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Jain University, Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana in Bengaluru, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research in Mysuru, K L E Academy of Higher Education and Research in Belagavi, Manipal Academy of Higher Education in Manipal, Sri Devraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research at Kolar, NITTE and Yenepoya in Mangaluru, and B L D E in Vijayapura, received the circular.



STAR FADES AWAY

Fans gather in Jayanagar to get a glimpse of actor Chiranjeevi Sarja, who breathed his last on Sunday | SHIRAM BN

MAHADEVAPURA PREPARES FOR MONSOON MAYHEM

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

COME rainy season and many areas in Mahadevpura zone go under water. This time round, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike engineers have come up with a plan to ensure there is no water-logging during monsoon. It has created a WhatsApp team with citizens who will alert it of such spots. A 10-person response team has also been formed for the first time in the zone. By June 12, before the monsoon hits Bengaluru, they plan to clear all the vulnerable spots.

BBMP has identified 31 vulnerable flooding spots in the area, of which there are 11 underpasses and 20 low-lying areas. Unlike the previous times where residents had to call

various engineers to complain of water-logging, this time BBMP has assigned two special officers to monitor all these vulnerable spots.

While earlier small equipment were used to clear the water-logged places which would take a long time, this time 10 HP diesel-operated pumps have been procured, to pump water at a fast pace. "Earlier, there were no pump sets, making it a challenge to pump out water. Now, contractors have procured these sets and placed it near the most vulnerable spots like the Outer Ring Road and Doddanekundi railway underpass, so they could be deployed at a short notice," said Clement Jaykumar, BBMP councillor, Mahadevpura Zone.

He said that seven mecha-

nised sweepers will be used to clean the debris on the roads so that it wouldn't go into the drains and choke them. "With the tractors and sweepers in place, so far 340-400 tractor-loads of silt has been removed. And work is on to desilt the storm water drains," he said.

BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Imran P A said that Mahadevpura zone has 70 arterial and sub arterial roads of a total length of 260 km and that nine contractors will be in charge. "We have taken up the work of desilting the shoulder drains on priority as the water from here goes into the storm water drains," he said.

Further, a separate WhatsApp group has been created with the contractors and the BBMP officers. The contractors need to give hourly updates of the work being done.

THE KING COMES TO YOU

Four more districts will now get mangoes at their doorsteps

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

FOLLOWING a good response to its door-to-door mango delivery initiative this summer, the Karnataka unit of India Post has now decided to extend it to four more districts from Monday. Mango lovers in Mysuru, Belagavi, Kolar and Hubballi can now relish the delicious and chemical-free fruits that come

directly from farmers.

The initiative this year, in partnership with the Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation (KSM-DMC), has been successful, said Post Master General (Bengaluru HQ Region) Rajendra Kumar. "We have so far delivered 85 tonnes of mangoes this year and this has helped India Post earn ₹27 lakh so far. Hence, we



decided to extend it to four more districts," he told TNIE, adding that the revenue was

only in thousands of rupees last year when the partnership was launched. "It was launched towards the end of summer last time. Our distribution this year began right at the start of the mango season."

The lockdown, which led to most people staying indoors, has also played a vital role in the huge demand for mangoes. The mango parcel bookings for

farmers will begin on Monday at Belagavi Head Post Office, Hubballi HO, Kolar HO and the National Sorting Hub in Mysuru. At present, parcel bookings take place only at the National Sorting Hub in Bengaluru.

The deal is good for all those involved, Kumar said. Farmers get a better price with the elimination of middlemen while customers get the products at their

door step, he added.

Last week, Flipkart entered into a tie-up with KSMDC. "Online bookings can be made both on Flipkart or the corporation, but delivery will only be through the Postal Department," he said. Mangoes are being booked in boxes of 3 kg each. The partnership with Flipkart will be extended to other seasonal fruits too, he said.



Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

08th June: We are constantly moving between The New Moon and the Full Moon – every fourteen days, in fact. That's just one of those complicated and fast-moving factors we astrologers have to contend with. Whatever, this is an excitable moment and therefore, in my opinion, a time to remain calm. Easy does it!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Let your head follow your heart. Today's vivacious Moon can be relied upon to raise your morale, but you should also make it quite clear that tradition is not to be relied upon. Somehow you have to forge your own path while keeping friends and allies on side.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You may be gripped on the horns of a dilemma, unsure whether personal or public affairs must take precedence. The fact is that family obligations should have first call on your attention. A younger relation might come up with just the advice that you need.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It's a day for communication, for exchanging opinions and perhaps discovering exactly what else is going on. Do consider the virtues of making a complete break with the past in a financial matter. It's not necessarily people that you need to wave farewell to, but your own bad habits!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

There's no time to flap around, so make a businesslike start to the week. Partners are liable to be in an erratic mood yet again, but perhaps you'll be able to ignore some of their more silly ideas and seize there is anything in what they say which could be of use.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

You seem to have a fair measure of control today, perhaps because of their voluntarily surrender some of their power. However, any such advantage will be purely temporary, so you will squander good fortune at your own risk. A little caution could pay off.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

There's a sense in which secrecy is called for, perhaps more than anything else, so if other people insist that they have an automatic right to know what you're doing, you should give them short shrift. The simple way out of a deadlock is to look for similarities between your feelings and other people's, rather than differences.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

There is much to be said for pressing ahead with social goals and activities, so that you may have little time for work. If professional chores are utterly unavoidable, the way to cheer yourself up is teamwork – meetings and the like, or even a party!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

It just so happens that one of the strongest regions of your chart at the moment is that which feeds your ideas, and anyone who ignores your proposals, suggestions and invitations will do so at their peril. Mind you, I am quite sure that they will come round in the end.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

Today's stars are sent to test your mettle and to see if you are prepared to put your adventurous dreams into practice. If you can tackle joint ambitions and get other people to back you, then you might build up the experience necessary to pursue your own vision of the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

The Sun's delicate movement will soon draw a significant personal phase to a close. However, there is still a great deal more thought to be put in before you get into the swing of a new relationship. You may also have to make a concession or two to keep a loved one happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

There's a new theme developing in your chart this week, one which seems to be very much connected to a lingering quest for security. The most important question is whether you can provide sufficient stability for yourself, or whether you will have to rely on other people.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

It's a day of work, although this doesn't mean that everything need be terribly dull or routine. There are many ways to invent the wheel and, with your typical ingenuity, that's just the sort of thing you should be doing. You might even cause a few surprises!

THE PHANTOM



HIANDLOIS



BEEBLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



LOCKHORNS



DENNIS THE MENACE



Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SU DO KU

9		8	5	3	4
5			3		
2	6		4		9
	5		3		4
1		6		5	8
7		7			1
7	2	3	5		9

EVIL

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

1	2	4	7	3	6	8	5	9
3	9	5	1	2	8	4	6	7
7	8	6	4	9	5	1	3	2
2	4	1	9	7	3	6	8	5
8	6	3	5	4	2	7	9	1
9	5	7	6	8	1	2	4	3
4	3	2	8	1	9	5	7	6
6	7	9	2	5	4	3	1	8
5	1	8	3	6	7	9	2	4

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RETEX
MISPK
THORTE
WNYAA

Answers here: RETEX, MISPK, THORTE, WNYAA

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

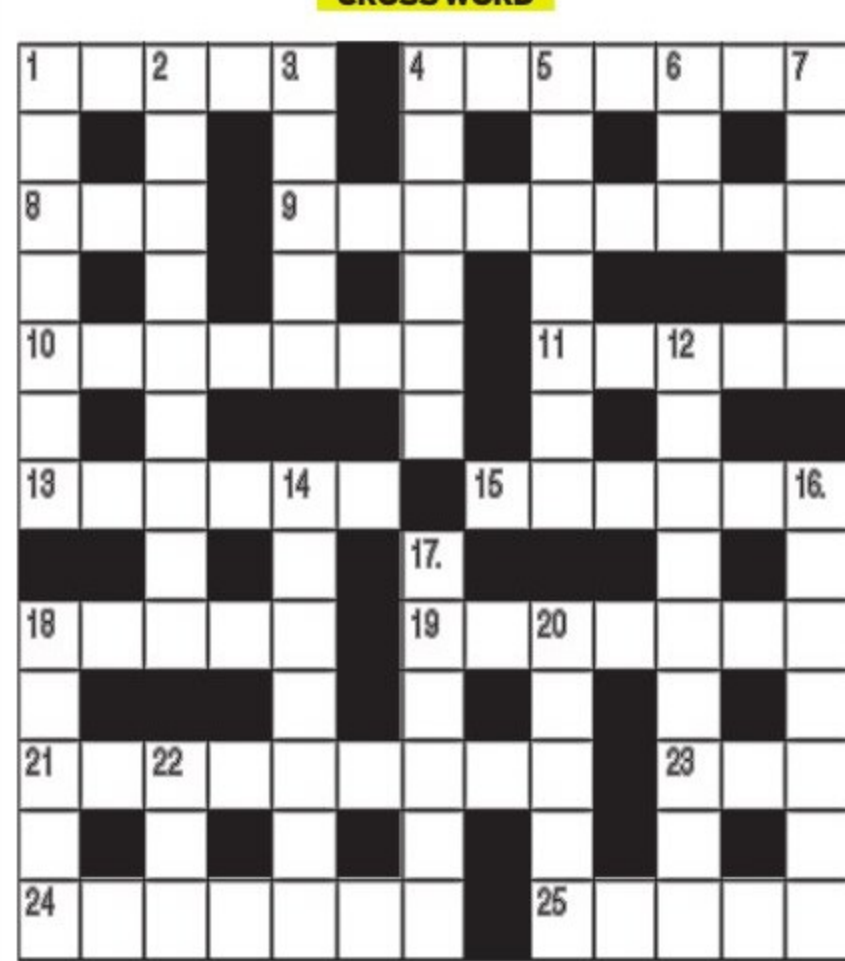
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: DOUGH LUNGE FRUGAL SCORCH
Answer: With so many students, the sign language teacher had — HER HANDS FULL.

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

- 1 Playful talk about me (5)
- 4 Pretend to discern (4,3)
- 8 Idiot in a ship (3)
- 9 He may explain changes to incomes (9)
- 10 Airs composed by priest in Hebrew perhaps (7)
- 11 A bulk transport in Afghanistan (5)
- 13 He's as disreputable as Carl might be (6)
- 15 He forms characters and puts them in books (6)
- 18 She's a vessel in the drink (5)
- 19 Prayer from a provider of funds to America (7)
- 21 Turn pride into downfall (9)
- 23 A note that spells trouble (3)
- 24 Business worry (7)
- 25 The going rate for methedrine? (5)

DOWN

- 1 Workman less industrious after midnight (7)
- 2 Suspects water vapour causes oxidation (9)
- 3 Kid having a nap (5)
- 4 Limited in one's outlook (6)
- 5 Sort of critic who bangs on the door? (7)
- 6 Sorcery Japanese women get wrapped up in (3)
- 7 The whole lot at variance (5)
- 12 Striking weapon for a formidable lady (9)
- 14 It makes a man keen on money and woman on food (7)
- 16 Ponders in order to make an appropriate reply (7)
- 17 Defame a large number and get into a row (6)
- 18 It's talked about among potato pickers (5)
- 20 A class in biology (5)
- 22 Manageto get a move on (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Flea market, 8 Dubai, 9 Integer, 10 Turkish, 12 Aptly, 12 Holder, 14 Eskimo, 17 Unfit, 19 Artisan, 21 Barbara, 22 Tills, 23 Mastermind.
Down: 2 Liberal, 3 Alibi, 4 Right, 5 Ki bags, 6 Tight, 7 Greyhounds, 8 Dutch bulbs, 13 Entraps, 15 insulin, 16 Damage, 18 Forum, 20 Torm.



Imran Pasha being taken in a procession after his discharge from hospital on Sunday

BAN ORDERS IN WARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

AFTER recovery, corporator Imran Pasha was discharged from the hospital on Sunday evening. His supporters gathered at Victoria Hospital and gave him a grand welcome, taking him in an open car procession to his residence in Padarayanapura.

As a large number of people had gathered without wearing masks and not maintaining social distance, the police stopped him and questioned him about permission for the procession. They also objected to his irresponsible act in the containment zone. But Pasha allegedly refused to listen and the police finally

asked him to step out of the vehicle. They took him to the JJ Nagar police station and arrested him for violating lockdown rules. City Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao, who visited the spot, clamped prohibitory orders under Section 144, prohibiting gathering of more than two people under JJ Nagar police limits, till midnight on June 12. Even while being shifted to hospital on May 30, Pasha had thrown tantrums, refusing to go. Only after the intervention of the police, he was taken to the hospital.

BBMP Commissioner Anil Kumar said Pasha tested negative on the repeat Covid test and was hence discharged.

Siidu writes to PM, seeks review of MSP for crops

Says revised rates do not take into account cost of production

Govt 'persecuting' farmers, says HDK

In the wake of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa instructing "farmers who own tractors and other vehicles" to return their BPL cards, JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy said this decision is an indication of an "unreasonable government".

He questioned why the government was interested in "persecuting" farmers, and pointed to defects in the public distribution system which, he demanded must be rectified first. "Let the government quit its usual practice of squeezing the peasant's throat," he said.

He said in today's era of scientific farming, it is necessary to own agricultural machinery and vehicles. "One should remember that BPL cards are now not limited to ration and is the basis for many other purposes and facilities," he said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced by the central government for 17 Kharif crops for 2020-21 has not taken into account the comprehensive cost of production, said former chief minister Siddaramaiah, and sought a review of the MSP.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, the former CM said the cost of production of the crops exceeds the revised MSP rates, thus defeating the purpose. The cost of production calculation has not taken into account all the costs, including rent of cultivable land, family labour costs, imputed costs on soil degradation and owned capital, the Congress leader added.

Citing an example of MSP for groundnut, Siddaramaiah said the cost of production as per the committee (that fixed the MSP) is Rs 3,515 a tonne and the MSP

announced is Rs 5,275. However, the actual cost of production, based on C2 (comprehensive cost) formula, is Rs 6,509 a tonne and the MSP should have been Rs 9,763, when calculated as 1.5 times of the production cost, he said and added the wide difference in MSP can be seen for all the crops.

"I strongly urge the central government to reconsider the decision and announce the MSP rates based on C2 (comprehensive cost). The same should be extended to all the agricultural produce to help farmers tide over the fallout of Covid-19 outbreak," the former CM said.

Many farmers do not have access to markets, which pushes them to sell their produce to local traders at lower prices, he said and added that the government should intervene in such cases to ensure that farmers get adequate price for their produce.



Devotion vs virus

Places of worship are set to throw open their gates on Monday, and elaborate rules on the 'mask-sanitiser-thermal scanner-social distance' rigmarole are in place. There are also specific rules on use of the temple bell, prayer mats and ablutions... all sounding pretty restricting to the aam devotee. Prompting a keen observer to comment, "It's true that we need to pray and worship, but I wonder who will risk going there. TV channels have us all running scared, many people avoid talking even to family members. I think these places will remain empty." Debatable point, if one goes by the average Indian's ardent devotion to all things divine.

Forever young for the pop vote

There has been much talk about heavyweights like Mallikarjun Kharge and H D Deve Gowda going back to Parliament, and how it would do their respective parties a lot of good. "While BJP sent 28-year-old Tejasvi Surya, Congress is sending 78-year-old Kharge and JDS is sending 87-year-old Deve Gowda to Parliament... tell me who will have more traction with the voters," quipped a local politician.

CM directs officials to work on plan for MPM revival

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Shivamogga

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa has directed officials to initiate a plan to rejuvenate the Mysore Paper Mills Limited (MPM) which was closed two years ago due to heavy losses. Yediyurappa conducted a meeting in this regard with officials of Forest and Industries and others in Bengaluru on Saturday.

The CM said many families of employees who were dependent on the factory are struggling after its closure. The factory equipment are also on the verge of rusting, hence it is necessary for the government to restart the factory, he said.

Earlier, efforts were made to privatise the factory to revive it. But the public and workers opposed the move.

The factory stopped production in 2015 citing losses. However, some of the employees took voluntary retirement as soon as the factory halted production and the rest of them were deputed to other departments.

Gowda to file RS papers tomorrow, BJP yet to announce list

BANSY KALAPPA AND K SHIVA KUMAR @Bengaluru/ Mysuru

WITH just two days left for filing of nomination papers for the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha, the BJP kept up the suspense over its nominee list.

Former Prime Minister Deve Gowda is likely to file his nomination on Tuesday. AICC chief Sonia Gandhi spoke to him on Sunday evening, welcoming his

decision to file his papers.

Congress candidate Mallikarjun Kharge's entry into the Rajya Sabha is almost certain as the party needs only 45 of its 68 votes. While the BJP has seen some pull-push politics over the Rajya Sabha ticket, insiders suggested that businessman Prakash Shetty and educationist Prabhakar Kore might be the final two to be nominated, and that Ramesh Katti might

not make it to the final list.

Prakash Shetty, whose name was doing the rounds in 2014 for a Rajya Sabha seat, failed to make it to the final list of party nominees. His name was again in the news for the Lok Sabha seat from Udipi-Chikmagalur, but he missed that opportunity too. Kore has served two terms in the Rajya Sabha and is likely to get a third term too.

Though the Congress had as-

sured the party of its surplus votes to stop the BJP from winning three of the four seats, Gowda had been reluctant to give his assent. JDS leaders had tried to convince Gowda to take the plunge, with former CM H D Kumaraswamy and others insisting that he should represent the state. Gowda, who lost the Tumakuru LS election as a Congress-JDS alliance candidate, was still coping with the defeat, sources close to

Gowda said. Though he was a RS MP in 1994-96, when he was Prime Minister, he was reluctant to enter the Rajya Sabha during his sunset days, as it could bring a blemish to his long political career, said a senior JDS leader.

On the other hand, Deve Gowda will give the JDS a national identity as the party has a lone MP, his grandson Prajwal Revanna, from Hassan Lok Sabha constituency.

I will use this opportunity in the RS to speak about K'taka: Kharge

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

SENIOR Congress leader and former Opposition Leader in the Lok Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, whose entry into the Rajya Sabha is almost certain, told TNIE, "I am going to the Rajya Sabha for the first time in my electoral career of 48 years. I have been given this opportunity, I will learn something and contribute, and do my best."

Asked about Congress benches in the Rajya Sabha being packed with stalwarts, he said, "There are leaders like Kapil Sibal, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Oscar Fernandes, Jairam Ramesh, Anand Sharma and others, I will get to learn from

them and speak about the state of Karnataka and different issues facing the nation."

While some in the Congress said he had been "targeted unfairly" and made to lose from Gulbarga in the parliamentary elections, Gowda said, "I had won every election before this. Members of a certain party had openly said in the House that they were doubtful whether I would return. Anyway, now my party has decided to nominate me. I don't want to speak about who was targeting me."

Mallikarjun Kharge's career spans 48 years, but he has been politically active for about 55 years, and had served as Union railway minister.



I am going to the Rajya Sabha for the first time. I have been given this opportunity, I will learn something and contribute, and do my best

— Mallikarjun Kharge, Senior Congress leader

EXPRESS READ

Boyfriend held for actress' suicide

The Suddaguntepalya police, probing the suicide case of actress Chandana, have arrested her boyfriend Dinesh on charges of abetment. Chandana (29) had ended her life by consuming poison after Dinesh had allegedly cheated her on the pretext of marrying her. She had attempted suicide at her house on May 28. ENS

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

AFFIDAVIT

I, K. NAGARATHNA, W/o Mr. Manjunatha K.H., aged about 53 years, R/o No. 161, 11th Block, Arkavathi Layout, Rachenahalli, Dr. SRK Nagar Post, Bengaluru-77 do hereby declare that I am wife of Ex-serviceman (Indian Army) by name Manjunatha K.H. by Rank and Army No. NK-13820806. In Army records my name has been given as NAGARATHNA and my date of birth given as 20.06.1967. But my correct name is K. NAGARATHNA and Date of birth is 01.06.1967. I also state that both the names i.e. K. NAGARATHNA and NAGARATHNA are one and the same and belongs to me only. Henceforth I shall be known and called as K. NAGARATHNA for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6.6.2020, sworn before Notary I. KANIKHA RAJA at Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, MOHAMMED ARIEF .D., Aged about 32 years, S/o Mr. D.M. Anwar, Presently Residing at # 486, Davis Road, Richards Town, Bangalore-560 064, has lost and misplaced the ORIGINAL SALE DEED dated 27-01-2014 which is Registered as Document No.04412 of 2013-14 of Book-I, Stored in CD No.BTMD-40, by the Sub-Registrar, BTM Layout, Bangalore, and also the original Registered GPA vide dated 26-08-2013 which is Registered as Document No.00140 of 2013-14 of Book-I, Stored in CD No.BTMD-53, by the Sub-Registrar, BTM Layout, Bangalore, executed by Smt.Amalia Rani, and Sri.Prabhu Kumar, both the documents pertain to the Residential Vacant Site Bearing No.26, formed in Property No.42/5, Khata No.42/5, situated at Vittalasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore.

Therefore the finder may kindly contact the undersigned and the finder will also be suitably rewarded
Sd/- MOHAMMED ARIEF .D.
Cell No. : 7406536889 (06-06-2020)
Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the General Public that my client viz., **Smt.P.Kaviha Redina** has irretrievably lost/misplaced the original Sale deed dated 13/04/2005, registered as document No.01223/2005-06, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar K.R.Puram Bangalore, in respect of **Site No.77**, house list khatha No.221/1, property No.148/2, situated at Horamavu, Agara Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru east Taluk, totally measuring 4000 Sq.ft.

If any persons Found the said original document please kindly inform the undersigned.
SRI VINAYAK ASSOCIATES,
No. 999/8, 2nd Floor, ORR, Horamavu, Bangalore-560 043.
M-9591720993

DOCUMENTS LOST

Shantha Kumari w/o Late CH Subboji Rao, residing at No. 279, 15th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore-80. I have lost my land original Sale Deeds No. (1) 227/2008-09 Sy.No-39-0.05 guntas. (2) 3721/2008-09 Sy.No-38-0.12.04 guntas both situated in Devenahalli Kasaba Hobli Devanahalli Taluk in the name of Shanthakumari and Late CH Subboji Rao respectively, lost on 25-05-2020 Near Devanahalli, if anybody found original docs please handover to the nearest Police Station or above mentioned address or contact M: 9945281274

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby inform that my client Sri.Manohar.R.V S/o R N Vasudev, intend to purchase below mentioned schedule property from Sri.Siddagowda, S/o Late Siddagowda residing at No.58, 2nd Main Road, 2nd Cross, Chowdeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560058. It is claimed that the said Sri.Siddagowda is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and that no encumbrance of any nature, statutory or otherwise, subsists in respect of Schedule Property. This is to give notice to the public that any person who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the proposed transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections, in writing, with the undersigned together with supporting documents within 3 days from this date, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our client would proceed to complete the transaction, subject to clear title and compliance with other statutory formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing No.2596, situated at 7th Block, Arkavathi Layout, site formed by Bengaluru Development Authority in Sy.No.45/2, Jakkur Village, Bengaluru, measuring East to West : 9.00 metres, and North to South : 6.00 metres, totally measuring 54 sq.mtrs, and bounded by:
East By : Site bearing No.2637
West By : Road
North By : Site bearing No.2595
South By : Site bearing No.2597
Dattatraya M. Joshi
Vijayendra D Joshi, Advocates
No.116/5-1, 2nd Floor, 11th Cross, Next to Union Bank of India, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560003.
M: 9481426512 / 9844058272

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is intending to purchase the property morefully described in the schedule hereunder ("Schedule Property") from its present owner Smt.S.Shylaja, W/o Late Shashidhar Babu, aged about 54 years, residing at No.32/4, "Someshwara Layout, Bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560076. The Owner represents that no other persons have/has any right, title and interest or claim over the schedule property and the owner further represents that she has not mortgaged or encumbered the schedule property in any manner. Any person or persons asserting any charge, lien, right, title, agreement, interest or claim on the schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property or the documents thereof or against the owner or objection to such sale in favour of my client should lodge his/her/their objections or claims with supporting documents with the undersigned within FIFTEEN DAYS (15 Days) of the issuance of this Public Notice, after which period my client shall proceed with the purchase of the schedule property on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT Two Bedroom Apartment bearing No.S-211 with super built up area of 1120 Square Feet on the Second Floor in the Apartment known as "NANDANA GREENS" together with One Car Parking in the Silt Floor and 338 square feet of undivided right, title and interest in property bearing Sy.No 32/ 5 measuring 0.07 guntas, land bearing Sy.No.32/ 3 measuring 0.05 guntas, land bearing Sy.No.32/4 measuring 0.05 guntas in all measuring 17 guntas or 18513 square feet, present BBMP Khatha No.982/ 1178/ 1072/32/34.5, situated at Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk and bounded on East by: Property of Muthappa; West by: Property of Chikka Arasappa; North by: Road and thereafter Property of Chikka Arasappa; South by: Property of Arjanappa.

R.Nagesh, Advocate
C/o.B.Siddeshwara & Associates
#119, Jinka Plaza, 3rd Floor,
Office No.2, 6th Cross,
Near Konikha hotel, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru-560 009,
Mob : 9916542039, 9741659622
Place : Bangalore Dtd : 25.5.2020

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INDULGE

THE MORNING STANDARD

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CHILL. CHERISH. CELEBRATE

ADITI RAO HYDARI

Actor

On Breaking Boundaries

IN CONVERSATION WITH

SUDHIR SRINIVASAN

Entertainment Editor,
The New Indian Express

KAVEREE BAMZAI

Author and Journalist

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 4 PM

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MAHARASHTRA RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

(महाराष्ट्र संस्कारवा आणि रेल्वे मंत्रालयाचे संयुक्त उपक्रम)
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways)

2 रा मजला, हेक्टर हाऊस, नरीमन पॉइंट, मुंबई 400 021
(2nd Floor, Hoechst House, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021)

GLOBAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EMANELMENT OF CONSULTANTS

MRIDC is implementing Semi High Speed Rail line corridor between Pune & Nashik and is exploring the possibility of having speed potential upto 250 KMPH.

Accordingly, MRIDC is inviting applications for Empanelment / Registration of Companies / Firms / Agencies for Consultancy Services for "Providing Consultancy Services in connection with Proof Checking of Indian Railways Standard Specifications, Guidelines & Design parameters for various components of Broad Gauge Railway Line for its suitability for Running of High Speed Passenger Trains upto 250 KMPH & suggesting modifications required, if any and Association during implementation of project as Technical Advisory Body / Consultant, if required by MRIDC". MRIDC is intended to shortlist and approve the experienced and renowned Consultants to complete the work on fast track with best possible solution.

Interested Companies may visit our official website www.maharail.com for details and information. You may also submit your responses through e-mail at tender@maharail.com or dgmtender@maharail.com or in sealed envelopes in prescribed format in the Corporate office, Mumbai on or before 29/06/2020 before 03:00 PM. Any corrigendum to this notice shall be hosted on our official website only.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
MRIDC

BMM ISPAT LIMITED

#114, Danapur Village Hosapete (TQ), Ballari(Dist)-583222. Ph: 08394-264000

TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF SCRAP

Offers are invited for purchase of below mentioned items:

S.No	Name of Item	QTYIN MT
SCRAP REQUIREMENT FOR MELTING PURPOSE		
1	Heavy Melting Scrap: +6mm Thickness minimum, 2feet x 2feet size maximum. Scrap below 6mm thick is not acceptable.	4000 MT/ Month

Notes 1) The offer should be submitted as per our specifications only on FOR Delivered to our plant at Danapur, Hospet basis within 3 days. All the offer should be sent in sealed cover only to the below address

Also we regularly need different machineries like Wheel Loader, JCB, Hydra, 10 wheel Tipppers on monthly hire basis. Interest parties may also contact below.

Head Commercial **BMM ISPAT LIMITED**
#114, Danapur Village, Hobli Maryammanahalli, Hosapete(TQ), Ballari(Dist).
For further details contact commercial department.
Email ID: bmmil@bmm.in
Ph: 08394-264000, Mobile: 9686552487

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. EEE/MWD/CTA/20-21/F-1453-57 Date: 01.06.2020

NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited have formulated a scheme under section 67 (2)(C) of the Electricity supply Act 2003 and the same is herewith published in pursuance of section 67(2)(C) of the said act for information to the public. Particulars of the scheme are as follows.

Name of the Work: Construction of 66KV SC Line on DC tower from existing 66KV Gowrasamudra Sub-Station to proposed 66/11KV Sub-Station Konasagara for Distance of 10.097Kms with Coyote conductor in Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District.

Areas passing through: Gowrasamudra, Hanumanahalli, Kondalhalli & Konasagara village limits.

Approximate Length: 10.097 Kms.
Approximate Cost : Rs 902.00 Lakhs.

KPTCL shall have and exercise all powers which the telegraph authorities possess under part-III of the Indian Telegraphs Act 1885 (13 of 1885) for implementation of the above said scheme. Any objections or discrepancies regarding the above schemes shall be sent to the office of the undersigned, within 30 days from the date of publication of this notification for KPTCL's pursuance.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele), Major works Division KPTCL,
9584 & 9585, 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross (Este), JCR Circle, Chitradurga - 577 501.

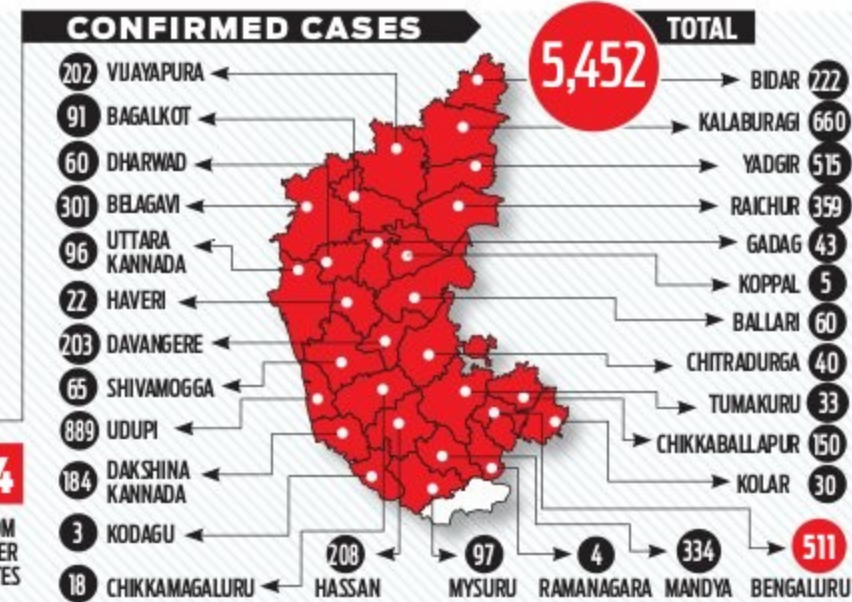
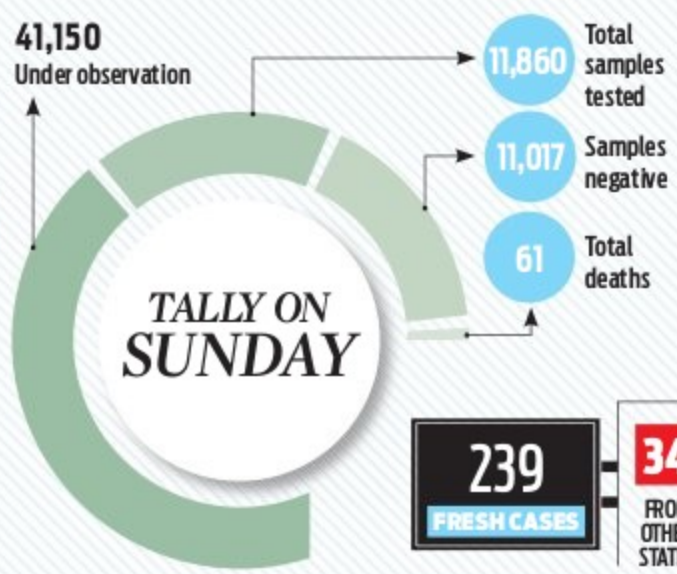


Udupi district administration is planning to ramp up surveillance of SARI and ILI patients, but faces a severe scarcity of frontline health workers.

143
NEW
RECOVERIES
2,132
TOTAL
RECOVERED

HELPLINES
080-46848600
080-66692000

104
Arogya
Sahayavani will
function too



THE COVER-UP CAMPAIGN

A vendor sells different types of masks in front of Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHRIRAM BN

Karnataka records 239 +ve cases, two deaths

Number of total positive patients goes up to 5,452; toll increases to 61; 177 Maharashtra returnees contribute to the spike

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE state recorded 239 new Covid-19 cases on Sunday, taking the total 5,452. Also, two deaths were reported, both from Bengaluru Urban, taking the state toll to 61.

One was a 61-year-old woman with Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI), diabetes, hypertension and hypothyroidism. The patient, who was admitted on May 29, was on ventilator and passed away on Saturday. The other was a 57-year-old man with diabetes, hypertension, filariasis and chronic myeloid leukaemia, who was admitted on June 3, and passed away on Sunday.

Maharashtra returnees accounted for 177 cases, 10 have ILI, two have SARI, five have returned from Kuwait, four from the UAE, three from Andhra Pradesh, one each from Goa, Delhi and Kerala, contacts of 10 patients are still being traced, 22 are primary contacts of patients and two are from containment zones.

Both Kalaburagi and Yadgir



BIMS Hospital ambulance staff report for duty in Belagavi | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

districts recorded 39 cases, Belagavi 38, Bengaluru Urban 23, Dakshina Kannada and Davanagere had 17 cases each, Udupi 13 and Shivamogga (12). Majority of the cases in Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Belagavi, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Shivamogga are travellers from Maharashtra.

In Bengaluru Urban, 10 have ILI, two have SARI, three are from Andhra Pradesh, two have travelled from UAE, one a returnee from Delhi, one from Ballari and four were primary contacts of patients.

In Davanagere, Patient 4093 spread the virus to five patients, five others are primary contacts, two are from containment zones and contact tracing of five patients is on.

Vijayapura recorded nine cases, Bidar seven and Hassan five, majority of whom were from Maharashtra. In Ballari, three contacts of Patient 4350 tested positive, while contact tracing of three others is on. In Bengaluru Rural, five returnees from Kuwait tested positive. Dharwad saw three cases, Gadag, Uttara Kannada two each, Mandya, Raichur one each.

Over 10,000 samples tested in Shivamogga

MARX TEJASWI @Shivamogga

THE number of Covid-19 samples collected has crossed 10,000 in Shivamogga district, of which 65 samples have come back positive. The increase in the number of samples collected is attributed to the large number of people returning to the district from other parts of the country, and an additional testing laboratory.

The district first reported Covid cases on May 10, with eight people who had returned from Ahmedabad in Gujarat testing positive. Then, the number of cases increased to 65, as people started returning from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and other parts of the country.

District Surgeon Dr Raghunandan told TNIE that as the number of people returning from Maharashtra has increased, the number of tests also increased. "We also tested people from vulnerable categories in containment zones, besides those with SARI and ILI symptoms. The testing of samples at Kysanur Forest Disease (KFD) Diagnostic and Research Laboratory has also helped us reach this figure," he said. A total of 700 swabs are being tested at this lab and at the Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratory.

SCIENTISTS FIND WAY TO IDENTIFY WHO IS COVID SUSCEPTIBLE, WHO IS NOT

For the first time, scientists have been able to identify the genetic and molecular basis of individual susceptibility to infection, that will give a clearer picture as to who could contract a more severe form of Covid-19, and who could be symptomatic or asymptomatic.

Being able to identify patients' susceptibility to severe pneumonia and their responsiveness to specific drugs will allow rapid public health treatment interventions.

Studies by Italian scientists from the Medical Genetics Unit at the University Hospital of Siena, in collaboration with the Siena Artificial Intelligence Lab, were based on findings that clinical presentation of Covid-19 varied from patient to patient, and understanding individual genetic susceptibility to the disease was vital to prognosis, prevention, and development of new treatments.

Understanding the genetic profile of patients may allow the repurposing of existing medicines for specific therapeutic approaches against Covid-19, as well as speeding the development of new antiviral drugs.

Using whole exome sequencing (WES) to study the first data from 130 Covid patients from Siena and other Tuscan institutions, scientists were able to uncover a number of common susceptibility genes in patients that were linked to a favourable or unfavourable outcome of infection.

The study is expected to have significant implications for health and healthcare policy.

Researchers treated each patient as an independent case.

"We were able to identify for each patient an average of three pathogenic (disease-causing) mutations involved in susceptibility to Covid infection," Professor Alessandra Renieri, Director of the Medical Genetics Unit at the University Hospital of Siena, Italy, said.

The research was presented to the 53rd annual conference of the European Society of Human Genetics held online due to the Covid-19 pandemic on Saturday.

First case at NIMHANS, 100 quarantined

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WHILE it has just been a week since the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) started its emergency services, the institute confirmed that it witnessed the first Covid-positive case on Sunday.

A circular issued by Dr B N Gangadhar, Director, NIMHANS, stated, "A 34-year-old patient with mental illness requiring emergency medical care was brought to the hospital on Friday and was admitted for observation. However, she was tested positive, though she did not show any symptoms of Covid-19 and the patient was shifted to Victoria



We will continue the sanitisation procedure till Tuesday and after that, emergency services will be shifted back to the same block

A professor at NIMHANS

Hospital for treatment."

Officials said that the woman was wandering about and was mentally ill. She was brought in by the police from the Gurappanapalya containment zone. Though she did not show any symptoms, she was tested as she came from a high-risk zone. Her test result came positive on Saturday at 10.30 am and immediately emergency services were shifted to the adjacent building. Her mother too was found and moved to Bowring Hospital.

Some NIMHANS officials said that nearly 100 people have been quarantined, including the doctors, nurses, other staff and admitted patients. "Many of them were quarantined on NIMHANS premises in sepa-

rate blocks where there is space. The samples of those who were in close contact will be taken. However, the staff members were wearing PPEs," said a professor.

The emergency building was sanitised and now, emergency care has been organised at the adjacent building, which is the centre of addiction. "We will continue the sanitisation procedure till Tuesday and after that, emergency services will be shifted back to the same block," another professor said.

Pratima Murthy, HoD, Psychiatry Department, said, "As some patients, who are mentally ill, too have to be quarantined, we are focusing more on them and counselling them not to worry."

Schools to have lesson on Covid this year: Minister

RAMAKRISHNA BADESHI
@Kalaburagi

THE state government is planning to introduce a lesson on Covid-19 for students for the present academic year to spread awareness, said Primary and Secondary Education Minister Suresh Kumar in an exclusive interview with TNIE.

The lesson will cover the history of such diseases, their impact on society and the necessity of wearing masks, maintaining social distance, washing hands etc.

He said, "As books are already printed, a separate handbook will be printed on Covid-19 in consultation with experts. Tests will also be conducted on the subject."

He said the government has not yet taken a decision on the exact date for starting classes for the current academic year. From Monday, meetings will be held to

find out opinions of parents, teachers and other stakeholders. Later, the proposal okayed by the cabinet will be sent to the Union government, he said.

The academic year is bound to change this year as there is no clarity on the starting of schools. Teachers have already agreed to conduct classes in the winter season and during holidays too, he said. Syllabus too will be reduced, he added.

"The government has not taken any decision on online classes. It will also take a decision on online classes on Monday after consulting experts. We are not in favour of teaching LKG, UKG and primary children online as it is the age of learning in a pleasant atmosphere with friends," he said.

Migrant students, who have returned from Maharashtra will also be given admission in schools after getting all details from that state, he said.

DIVINE DUTY

Services to resume at religious places today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TEMPLES and mosques will reopen on Monday, while Catholic churches will wait till June 13. Muzarai Minister Srinivasa Poojary told TNIE that they were prepared to reopen the temples from June 1 and even had a meeting with Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa, but waited till June 8 because of the Union government's revised guidelines.

No 'prasadam' or 'theertha' will be given to devotees at temples and those below ten years and above 65 years will not be allowed. Everyone has to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

The guidelines stated that there should be mandatory thermal screening and soap/sanitiser at all religious places. At a recent meeting, religious authorities had told officials that all norms will be followed strictly.

The mosque authorities too

have put out a note saying they will start their prayers from Monday. S A Rashadi, Amir-e-Shariat of Karnataka, said they will not provide prayer mats or water for ablution at mosques and everyone has to bring their own mats. While many mosques will open at 5 am for Fajar, some will reopen at 1 pm for the Zohar namaz. No one will be allowed to stay after the prayer service and people cannot gather in groups to chat.

Archbishop Peter Machado said the Catholic churches will reopen only on June 13 after sufficiently sensitising the staff and abiding by all the norms the government has put out. Churches of other denominations are reopening on Monday. Pastor Joshua Prabhakar said the Brethren Churches will reopen after about a month or two depending on the situation. "We don't want to put anyone at risk by reopening our places of worship," he said.



A priest sanitises idols at a Lord Venkateswara temple in Rajajinagar in Bengaluru, ahead of its opening on Monday | PANDARINATH B

COVID KAVACH: A WAY OF SECURING ELDERLY, VULNERABLE

WE have been living with the coronavirus in Karnataka since March and will continue to do so for many more months. There is still a lot of fear and misconceptions in the minds of people. But what has not changed since the start of Covid-19 in December 2019 in China is that it is the elderly and other vulnerable populations who are at high risk.

In Karnataka, as on June 7, there were 5,452 cases and 61 deaths. Of the total deaths, 30 were over 60 years of age and others with comorbidities.

Those who are vulnerable include persons over 60 years of age, those suffering from diabe-

tes, hypertension, chronic respiratory disease, chronic heart, kidney, liver or neurological disease, tuberculosis, cancers, blood disorders and extreme obesity.

They need to develop a "protective shield or kavach" against the virus. They should stay away from the young who may infect them by physically isolating themselves in the house. Additionally, they are advised to sleep well for a minimum of six hours, walk regularly and do light exercises or yoga. They should not exert more and avoid stressful situations.

As for diet tips, they must eat light but freshly cooked and



Dr M K SUDARSHAN
(Chairman, Karnataka Covid-19 Technical Advisory Committee)

warm food every three-four hours. It is better if they prefer vegetarian food. One to two cups of curd daily is good. One fruit every day and four to six dates is also recommended.

While following all this, do take your prescribed medi-

cines regularly.

These vulnerable people need to follow certain norms. As far as possible, stay home and be safe. If going out is inevitable, then strictly practise 'Preventive and Social Medicine (PSM)' for Covid protection in public areas — P stands for Physical distancing of more than one metre; S is Sanitizer and Soap and M stands for Face mask.

If one develops cough, fever, throat pain, breathing difficulty, diarrhoea, tiredness, aches and pains, redness of eyes, headache, loss of smell or taste etc, one must immediately consult a doctor.

Those with respiratory problems are advised to check twice

daily the SPO2 (oxygen saturation) using a finger tip pulse oximeter. If the reading is less than 94, the person must immediately consult a doctor.

There are certain don'ts too. Avoid refrigerated or iced items, alcohol, meat and fish, and oily and fried foods.

A daily routine of healthy practices, nutritious and well-balanced diet, regular intake of medicines and other supplements is known to improve the health and boost the immunity level which are key to providing a Covid Kavach.

Till date, there is neither a drug nor vaccine against Covid-19. So prevention is better when there is no cure.

RAINY DAYS



As the southwest monsoon enters Andhra Pradesh, dark clouds gather over Tirupati on Sunday | MADHAV K

With Covid in mind, NDRF tweaks flood relief SOPs

'Teams that return from operations will be tested and quarantined'

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

THE Covid-19 pandemic has thrown a huge challenge to rescue and relief operations across the globe. In India, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has developed new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for its personnel and victims during floods keeping in mind the pandemic guidelines," S N Pradhan, Director General, NDRF, told *TNIE*.

"We had developed these new SOPs in January itself more for the floods than cyclones because the former are common during Indian monsoons. We have vetted new relief and rescue protocols and have fine tuned them in the two cyclones - 'Amphan' in West Bengal and Odisha and 'Nisarga' in Maharashtra and Gujarat," he said. "Odisha government provided free Covid-19 test for the NDRF personnel deployed there for Amphan. I will request other states and Union Territories to offer free testing to our men deployed for ground operations," he added.

"One of our men, who was tested positive and as a matter of our new SOPs the teams that had gone for Amphan and Ni-

sarga operations have been put under quarantine. We have dedicated quarantine centres at all the 50 NDRF bases in the country. Teams that return from operations will be tested and quarantined at the base," he said.

Explaining the new SOPs, Pradhan said, "For floods, one has to wade through water or use boats to reach the marooned people. Flood water is contaminated and my men need to wear protective gear, which while protecting them, should also allow them free movement. Recently the personal protective equipment (PPE) that NDRF men wore for Goalpara floods in Assam got wet and we had to change the material to rain-proof. We have made some vents in the new sets to allow breathing and prevent perspiration, which is again to help prevent Covid-19. We have come up with two categories of PPE for the rescue teams. One is the normal PPE and the other has been customised for flood relief."

He added, "We are trying to augment authorisation of the equipment. The government has already supplied 60,000 normal PPE to the NDRF and two sets of customised PPE per person are being readied. Our calculation is that every personnel should have at least four sets of the PPE."

WE HAVE TRAINING WITH AGENCIES LIKE BARC AND ONGC. WE CONDUCT PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL RE-ORIENTATION OF OUR MEN BECAUSE THEY ARE ALSO MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS TO AN EMERGENCY

S N Pradhan, DG, NDRF

Monsoon enters AP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

THE Southwest monsoon has entered Andhra Pradesh and is expected to cover all the state by June 12-13. Monsoon has entered Chittoor district and it is predicted to cover other parts of Rayalaseema and some parts of Coastal Andhra Pradesh in the next 2-3 days.

According to IMD, the southwest monsoon normally onsets in the Rayalaseema region on June 4 and covers Srikakulam district, the northeastern part of the state by June 11. However, due to the cyclone forming in the Arabian Sea, there was a slight delay in the onset of monsoon.

There was widespread rain in Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts. Papatnam in Srikakulam district recorded maximum rainfall of 7 cm followed by Vizianagaram with 4 cm, Garividi, Chipurupalle and Denakada, all in Vizianagaram district with 3 cm of rainfall. Highest day time temperatures of 42-degree celsius was reported in Guntur.

TS, TN record highest single-day spike

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad/Chennai/Vijayawada

A sharp rise in Covid-19 cases and even deaths continue in Telangana, as the State recorded 206 cases and 10 deaths on Saturday. It was the highest single-day spike in positive cases as well as deaths till now. A TV journalist died in Hyderabad on Sunday while undergoing treatment at the Gandhi hospital. The 36-year-old

was a comorbid with a history of Myasthenia gravis - a disorder that paralyses all muscles.

Tamil Nadu recorded a new high on Sunday with 1,515 more cases being added to its account.

As Tamil Nadu's tally hit 31,667, a total of 18 more deaths were reported taking the toll to 269. Chennai continues to report the lion's share of fresh cases with 1,155 being reported in city

aside from one 'imported' case, raising its tally to 22,149.

After Chennai, its neighbouring districts reported the highest number of cases with Chengalpattu recording 135 and Tiruvallur 55, taking their total case load to 1,854 and 1,329 respectively.

Another 199 people tested positive in Andhra Pradesh, taking the state tally to 4,659 cases.

Film industry mourns action star

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CHIRANJEEVI Sarja is the grandson of veteran actor Shakthi Prasad and nephew of popular South Indian actor Arjun Sarja. Chiranjeevi is survived by his wife Meghana Raj, whom he married a few years ago and is four months pregnant. Meghana is the daughter of veteran actors Sundar Raj and Pramila Joshi.

Chiranjeevi complained of chest pain and breathlessness. He even suffered convulsions and was taken to Sagar Apollo Hospital in Jayanagar on Sunday in an unresponsive state. He had suffered three cardiac arrests by then.

According to an Apollo Hospital statement, the actor was brought to its Jayanagar unit in an unresponsive state around

2.20 pm on Sunday and he was immediately shifted to the emergency room for treatment.

"On examination, he was found unresponsive with absent carotid pulse, cold peripheries and bilateral dilated pupils. Hence, Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was started according to the latest Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) protocol. Resuscitation was continued till 3.48 pm. During this time, intravenous medications, inotropes and advanced airway was used, pulse was achieved three times (ROSC), later continued to be asystolic. He was declared dead at 3.48 pm," Dr Yatheesh Govindaiah, Unit Head of Apollo Hospitals, Jayanagar, said.

As per protocol, the actor was tested for Covid-19 and the results returned negative.

Chiranjeevi made his debut with 'Vaayuputra'. He worked in films 22 films including 'Chiru', 'Dandam Dashagunam', 'Kempe Gowda', 'Varadanayaka', 'Aatagara', 'Singhaa' and 'Khakhi'. He was last seen on the silver screen in the film 'Shivarajuna'. He had also signed up for the films 'Raja Marthanda', 'April', 'Ranam', 'Kshatriya' and 'Dheeram', which are in different stages of production.

Popular film personalities including Tara, Shivarajkumar, Raghavendra Rajkumar, Sumalatha Ambareesh, Upendra and Priyanka, Jaggesh, Darshan, Sudeep, Abhishek, Sravan Lokesh, Prajwal Devaraj, music directors G. V. Prakash Kumar, V. Manohar paid their last respects at the hospital and at the Sarja residence in Basavanagudi.



Chiru's untimely death is really hurtful. Fate is really very cruel. May God give Meghana and Sarja's family the power to withstand this pain. May the soul R.I.P.

-Darshan, actor



Shocked to hear about #Chiranjeevisarja's demise!!! Can never forget his smiling face my deepest condolences to the whole family

-Priyamani Raj, actor



Deeply saddened and shocked to hear the passing away of #Chiranjeevisarja. A young talent gone too soon. Condolences to his family and friends.

-Anil Kumble, cricketer



Absolutely shocked by the untimely demise of #Chiranjeevisarja. Great talent, fine human being. Gone too young, you will be missed.

-Danish Sait, TV presenter and actor

50% of small farmers not aware of schemes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

WHILE 90 per cent of the farmers got sustenance money from PM Kisan Yojana in Karnataka, Muthuraju said more than 50 per cent of small farmers were not aware of other schemes such as Jan Dhan Yojana nor did they get government help to sell through Horticultural Producers Co-operative Marketing and Processing Society (HOPCOMS) as promised.

SCENE ON THE GROUND Karnataka

■ 50% of farmers reported losing employment (not working on any day during the lockdown)

■ 67% of households with farming as main source of income reported consuming less food than before

■ 38% farming households reported not having enough money for even a week's worth of essentials

■ 53% of farming households reported taking loans

*More than half of farming households did not receive any form of cash transfer.

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE/M-I/NCTPS-2	13	1

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, Corrigendum, Due date Extension Notice, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites : www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in nicgep/app DIPP/2102/Tender/2020

THE MYSORE LAMP WORKS LTD.
(A Public Sector Enterprise of Government of Karnataka)
Registered Office: Old Tumkur Road, Malleswaram West, Bengaluru - 560 055.
CIN: U17111KA1936PLC000182

PROVIDING SECURITY SERVICES

Sealed quotations are invited from qualified Security Agencies for providing Security Services with minimum wages norms. Details of General Terms are to be collected from the Company and the quotations containing agency profile and other details should reach Managing Director at the above address by 20.06.2020.

Sd/- Managing Director

INTEGRAL COACH FACTORY

The following e-tenders are published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to login to www.ireps.gov.in and quote against these tenders. Manual quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. Hindi translation of display advertisement available in the website: www.icf.indianrailways.gov.in. Closing and Opening time for all tenders are 10:30 hrs and 11:00 hrs, respectively.

Sl. No.	Open Tender No.	Short description of work	Approx. Value in Lakhs (₹)	Date of Tender Closing	Date of Tender Opening
1.	EW/1075	Cleaning services, surface sanitation and Maintenance of Integrated Waste Management System in ICF colonies for 2 years	808.52	25.06.2020	25.06.2020

GREEN ICF ! CLEAN ICF !

KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD
(Forest, Ecology and Environment Department)
Ground Floor, "VANAVIKAS", 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, BANGALORE - 03.
Ph : 080- 23448783, Fax : 080-23440535, e-Mail: kbb-ka@nic.in Website: kbb.karnataka.gov.in

No.: ACT/B01/TENDER/364/614/Call-3 Date: 05-06-2020

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement mode Only)

Tender is invited from the Public Sector Banks for quoting competitive rate of interest for investment in Fixed Deposits through e-Procurement portal. Last date for uploading is upto 16.06.2020 till 5.00PM. Further information can be obtained from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or kbb.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Member Secretary
Karnataka Biodiversity Board
DIPP/DDU/234/2020-21

MADHYA PRADESH AGENCY FOR PROMOTION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
State IT Centre, A-47, Arera Hills, Bhopal
Ph. : (0755) - 2518702

"RFP FOR SUPPLYING OF PROFESSIONAL & STANDARD SURVEY GRADE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE/DRONE FOR LARGE SCALE MAPPING"

क्रमांक : गैप आईटी/2020/2875 दिनांक 06.06.2020

MAP_IT invites Proposals from qualified and experienced suppliers for "supplying of professional & standard survey grade Unmanned Aerial Vehicle/Drone for large scale mapping" to MAP_IT.

Interested Bidders, who qualify as per the criteria mentioned in the document, may submit their proposals through e-tendering latest by 28 June till 3:30 P.M. on e-Procurement portal (www.mptenders.gov.in). Bidder has to submit the document fee of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) for RFP document along with e-Procurement Processing fees through online payment at e-Procurement portal.

The detailed RFP document can be downloaded from the website www.mptenders.gov.in and www.mapit.gov.in from 8 June 2020 onward.

In future, all the information/notice will be display on website www.mapit.gov.in.

M.P. Madhyam/97540/2020 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No. U27310WB1920GOI003601
"KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 2/1, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)

ITEM RATE Offer(s) in two part system are invited from reputed, resourceful and experienced parties meeting prescribed qualifying criteria for following work:

Sl. No.	Description of work as per NIT No. B&R / MSP / NIPQA / JHS / BRIDGE / 01 Dtd. 08.06.2020	Tender Document available on B&R's Website	Due date of submission of Bid
1.	PRE-QUALIFICATION APPLICATION (NIPQA) FOR EMPANELMENT OF JOINT VENTURE / CONSORTIUM MEMBER AND ENTERING INTO MOU ON LONG TERM BASIS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF IMPORTANT BRIDGE NO. 1367/2 ON YAMUNA RIVER HAVING 13X76.2M SPANS OF OPEN WEB GIRDER FOR SINGLE LINE OVER SUBSTRUCTURE FOR DOUBLE LINE, INCLUDING EARTHWORK & PROTECTION WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH KHAIRABHIMSEN DOUBLING UNDER NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY.	08.06.2020	15.06.2020

Interested resourceful Contractors may download the tender documents from Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in>. Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, shall be hosted in Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> only.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಕಂಪನಿ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ)
ಕಂಪನಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-580 025.
Company Identity Number[CIN]:U31401KA2002SGC030437
ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಹೆಚ್.ಸಿ.ಓ.-07/ಸಿ.-81/2017-18, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06^{ನೇ} ಜೂನ್, 2020

ನೇಮಕಾತಿ - ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ವಿಷಯ : ಸಹಾಯಕ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಕುರಿತು.

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ : 1. ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿ/ಜಿ16/ 40360/ 2016-17, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 08.09.2016.
2. ನೇಮಕಾತಿ-ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ [ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ] ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ : ಹೆಚ್.ಸಿ.ಓ.-07/ಸಿ.-81/ 2017-18, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 29.02.2020.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರಸಾರ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತದ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿ/ಜಿ16/ 40360/ 2016-17, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 08.09.2016 ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ Online Aptitude Test ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಳಿಸಿರುವ ಅಂಕ / Equi-Percentile ಜೇಷ್ಠತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನಾಧರಿಸಿ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ, ಕಾಲ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳನ್ವಾರ್ತ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠತೆಯ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ, ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು, ಕಟ್-ಆಫ್ [Cut-Off] ಅಂಕಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹು.ವಿ.ಸ.ಕಂ.ನಿ. ಅಂತಃಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ [2] ರ ಹು.ವಿ.ಕಂ.ನಿ.ಯ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸದರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ನಿಗದಿತ ಅವಧಿಯೊಳಗೆ ಈ ಮೇಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೂಲಂಕಷವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರನ್ವಯ, ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣಾವಾರು ಅನುಸರಣಾ ವಿವರಣಾ ಪಟ್ಟಿ [ಅನುಬಂಧ: 01 ರಿಂದ 03], ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ [ಅನುಬಂಧ: 04 ರಿಂದ 06] ಯನ್ನು ಕಟ್-ಆಫ್ [Cut-Off] ಅಂಕ [ಅನುಬಂಧ: 07 ರಿಂದ 09] ಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹು.ವಿ.ಸ.ಕಂ.ನಿ.ಯ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲ [www.hescom.co.in] ದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸದರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 15.06.2020 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಮತ್ತು ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಸ್ಥಳ ನಿಯುಕ್ತಗಾಗಿ, ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16.06.2020 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ, ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಮೂಲ ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿ [ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್/ವೋಟರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್/ಜಾಲನಾ ಪರವಾನಗಿ/ಪಾಸ್ ಪೋರ್ಟ್/ಪಾನ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್] ಹಾಗೂ ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿಯ ಸ್ವ-ದೃಢೀಕೃತ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ, ಕಂಪನಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹು.ವಿ.ಸ.ಕಂ.ನಿ., ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ 580025 ಇಲ್ಲಿ ತಪ್ಪದೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮೆರಿಟ್ ಅನುಸಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಹು.ವಿ.ಸ.ಕಂ.ನಿ. ಯ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಪುಟಗಳಿಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸ್ಥಳ ನಿಯುಕ್ತಗಾಗಿ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಕಾರ್ಯರೀತಿಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಹಾಜರಾಗದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ನಂತರ ಖಾಲಿ ಉಳಿಯುವ, ಹು.ವಿ.ಸ.ಕಂ.ನಿ. ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಇನ್ನಾವುದೇ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ಆಯ್ಕೆಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪೂರ್ವ ಚರಿತ್ರೆಯ ಪರದಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡುವಂತೆ ಕೋರಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಆನ್-ಲೈನ್ ಆರ್ಜಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿರುವ ವಿಳಾಸದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಬರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ಕೋಟಾದಡಿಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮೂಲ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದ ಮೂಲ ಜಾತಿ/ಆರಾಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ, ಸಂಭುತ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ ನೀಡುವಂತೆ/ಮೇಲು ಸ್ಥಳಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸುವಂತೆ ಕೋರಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿರವರಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ಅಂಕ ಪಟ್ಟಿ/ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರಗಳ ನೈಜತೆಯನ್ನು ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಿದ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ/ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನೈಜತೆಯನ್ನು ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವಂತೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಕುಲಸಚಿವರವರಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು ಸದರಿ ಪತ್ರಗಳ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ರವಾನಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಆಯ್ಕೆಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕೋರುವ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲೆ/ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಜರೂರಾಗಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿ ಸಹಕರಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು
[ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾ.ಸಂ.ಆ]

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಧಾ/107/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2020-21

GUJARAT DEFECTIONS AND THE BJP PLAYBOOK FOR RAJYA SABHA POLLS

lections appear to bring out the animal spirits of politics within the BJP, particularly if it is for the Rajya Sabha, where it is still short of a simple majority. At a time when coronavirus cases were just beginning to explode, the party mauled the Congress in Madhya Pradesh in March and snatched power in the state after the dramatic defection of Jyotiraditya Scindia and the lawmakers who supported him. The bigger prize for the BJP was a Rajya Sabha seat prized out of the hands of the smug Congress chief minister Kamal Nath, whose ego clash with Scindia led to the latter leading the coup and getting the Upper House ticket as reward.

Around the same time, the saffron party was also working to snatch a Rajya Sabha seat that the Congress thought it could easily win in Gujarat. The GOP needed the support of 70 MLAs to comfortably pocket two RS seats through first preference votes and had 73 on its own in addition to the support of independent lawmaker Jignesh Mewani. But it had not factored in the resignation of five of its MLAs engineered by the BJP to secure three of the four seats up for grabs. Biennial elections were postponed due to the pandemic to June 19, giving the ruling party ample time to work on further defections. It has since snared three more Congress lawmakers and a couple more are expected to fly the coop, forcing the listless party to herd its remaining flock to resorts in Rajasthan.

As for the BJP, it was following its 2017 playbook when it engineered the resignation of nine Gujarat Congress MLAs and more GOP abstentions on polling day as the RS contest was between two gladiators—Ahmed Patel and Amit Shah. Patel scraped through but the BJP had shown its fangs. The Modi-Shah combine has since displayed an appetite for raw power that was not seen in previous leaderships of the party. Using the levers of democracy to serve its ends has even drawn adverse judicial comment. But the party is single-minded in its pursuit to capture the Rajya Sabha, ready to pay the price of absorbing turncoats, as the Karnataka rumble indicates. Distortion of democracy or not, the juggernaut rolls on crushing all opposition.

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

In the parallel world of social media, not all are equal in death. The heartbreaking story of a pregnant elephant dying in Kerala after eating a fruit-bomb stirred our collective conscience so much more than the equally heart-wrenching saga of hundreds of migrants dying on their way home. Nevertheless, the elephant story needs our collective attention.

Data shows that between 2014 and 2019, a total of 510 elephants died of unnatural causes. Of them, 333 elephants were electrocuted, 77 died in train accidents, and 71 were killed by poachers. Kerala stands sixth in the country in unnatural elephant deaths (8.2%). Assam and Odisha together are responsible for 40% of such deaths. This, despite both Assam and Kerala reporting almost equal wild elephant populations. Yet, the death of this one elephant in Kerala sparked so much more outrage than the 500 before it. A major reason is misinformation. For years, farmers in Kerala and Tamil Nadu have used fruit bombs to kill wild boars that destroy their crops. It never made news till this elephant fell prey. However, when national TV reported the incident, the contraption became a prank. The miscreants were alleged to have deliberately fed the bomb to the elephant. Truth became the victim to emotional outbursts. Actors, sports stars, and even business honchos suddenly became animal rights activists, of course on social media. Will these business houses now stop exploiting loopholes in environmental regulations? Will these actors turn down projects with high environmental costs? Probably not. Recently, around 300 wildlife activists wrote to the Centre, asking it to reconsider permissions given for 31 commercial proposals that will affect a whopping 15 tiger reserves in the country—that is, 30% of all tiger habitats. Why no business leaders or actors have opposed such projects remains a mystery.

In the era of 'fast-track' environmental clearances, much more than lip service is needed to protect wildlife. There needs to be coordinated effort, involving governments, businesses, and individuals. Until then, animal rights activism will remain an easy cause to advocate, for no animal will accuse us of tokenism.

EDITORIAL

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At a time when the world is distracted by the Wuhan virus pandemic, China has stepped up its plan to annex Hong Kong fully

CHINA'S HOBNAILED BOOT ON HONG KONG'S NECK

PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY



Former Ambassador, Ex-Secretary in MEA and currently a Visiting Fellow at ORF, Delhi

Hong Kong is in the throes of massive street protests, with the police using disproportionate force to curb demonstrators. The protests are reminiscent of the 2019 pro-democracy protests, triggered by an extradition law. The Wuhan coronavirus pandemic halted the demonstrations, but these broke out again early this year over another law that criminalised "mocking" China's national anthem and brought in a three-year imprisonment provision for "whistling" or "booing" while the anthem is played.

Hong Kong became a colony of the UK in 1898 after the Opium Wars when Britain obtained a 99-year lease on the territory. Hong Kong grew into a cosmopolitan financial hub since the time it was a British colony. The UK handed the territory back to China under an agreement signed in 1997. Under this agreement, Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China, adhering to the concept of "one country, two systems".

Upping the ante recently, the National People's Congress passed an anti-secession law, provoking fears of Chinese security agencies interfering in Hong Kong and unleashing a wave of oppressive measures. The new law is expected to subvert Hong Kong's de facto Constitution, known as the Basic Law. It has

heightened fears that may also lead to emigration of wealthy professionals from Hong Kong. There is apprehension that China will use the new laws to seize wealth from residents and crush democracy.

The new law seeks to end the "one country, two systems" concept wherein Hong Kong enjoyed relative autonomy from China's authoritarian communist rule, maintaining a separate governing and economic system. A similar Bill placed in the Hong Kong Legislative Council in 2003 was rejected outright after mass protests. In China such laws are routinely used to violently suppress dissent.

Hong Kong's crucial role as a portal for global financial transactions and acquisition of technology was useful for China's rise as an economic power. Trade statistics give separate figures for China and Hong Kong and the city enjoyed certain privileges not accorded to mainland China. A world distracted by the Wuhan virus pandemic has provided cover for China to step up its plan and annex Hong Kong fully, integrating it with the authoritarian communist laws applicable on mainland China.

The Donald Trump administration has reacted strongly against the law. The ongoing trade war, deaths due to coronavirus, the pandemic-induced economic depres-

sion and the current protests in several cities in the US against the murder of a black person by a Minneapolis police officer have caused enormous popular anger in the US. US President Trump has announced his country's withdrawal from the WHO and a plan to expel Chinese students who are sponsored by China's PLA and engaged in theft of IPR. The tough posturing on China by the US President is with an eye on the November presidential election and his falling popularity ratings.

US President Trump has announced a review of all laws that allow Hong Kong tariff privileges, special status as a financial hub and preferential export controls on dual-use technologies. Meanwhile, China has warned that US retaliation will have consequences. China has pointed out that the US enjoys a \$31 billion trade surplus in its trade turnover with Hong Kong and over 85,000 thousand Americans



China is worried about the domino effect of Hong Kong asserting its autonomy on Taiwan, Tibet, etc. It now considers itself strong enough to ride out the negative reaction to its Hong Kong moves

live and work in the financial hub.

China's actions have come under criticism by several countries. Australia, Canada, the UK and US have issued a joint statement saying, "China's decision to impose the new national security law on Hong Kong lies in direct conflict with its international obligations." They called on China to find a "mutually acceptable accommodation" with the government and people of Hong Kong. The UN Security Council discussed the Hong Kong issue in a closed-door meeting, since any open session will be blocked by China, using its veto.

Germany too has issued a critical statement on behalf of the EU. President Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan has promised to help Hong Kong residents. She announced over Twitter, "We will not sit back and watch while Hong Kong's freedom, democracy and human rights are eroded." India has so far not reacted officially and China's attempt to create a border incident in Ladakh is a signal to avoid any anti-Chinese move at the WHO or join the Western camp to criticise China. For India, the options are open.

China maintains that Hong Kong is entirely its internal matter, while the US and UK aver that China is violating international commitments not to change the status of Hong Kong. China's

Prime Minister Le Keqiang and Finance Minister Wang Yi have argued that the new law will further strengthen the "one country, two systems" without affecting Hong Kong's autonomy and apply to only those who indulge in terrorism or separatism. There are few takers for these arguments since China has described Hong Kong's protests for democracy as the work of "terrorists" and foreign interference.

The war of words and threats of retaliation are likely to prolong the trade war between China and the US. China's move to tighten control over Hong Kong is driven by its anxiety over the rising democratic aspirations of a new generation in Hong Kong that opposes the communist system. For China, preserving the communist system and CCP's absolute power is the foremost national priority. China is also worried about the domino effect of Hong Kong asserting its autonomy on Taiwan, Xinjiang and Tibet, apart from its impact on its people. Global opinion has turned against communist China's Janus-faced policies. The main reason, however, is that China considers itself strong enough now to withstand the negative reaction, as the Wuhan coronavirus pandemic provides it cover for riding out any retaliation for some time.

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BHARAT CAN HELP SHAPE A NEW WORLD ORDER

MANMOHAN VAIDYA



Joint General Secretary of the RSS

Everything has come to a standstill due to the coronavirus pandemic. There is no buzz of planes overhead, trains are not running, cars are not clogging arterial roads and human beings have stopped walking outdoors. The earth is breathing clean and healthy air. Pollution has reduced greatly and fresh air hidden behind a persistent smog has been set free. The waters in rivers are running clean, animals are fearlessly claiming their rightful place and nature is manifesting itself in its full glory—so much so that the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas are now clearly visible from Jalandhar in Punjab.

Even if all this is for but a brief moment in time, it is a critical moment in human history and its memory will abide. For the first time in our lives, we have been allowed a glimpse of what might happen if the machines of human enterprise grind to a halt. But in order to truly understand the repercussions of halting the pace of development, one must first comprehend the fallouts of development.

Mr S K Chakraborty, in his article 'Rising technology and fall-

ing ethics', wrote, "The march of modern science and technology derived from it coincided with an era when the human race was beginning to snap its ties of personal-feeling-level relationship with earth and nature. ... From tool to machine to automation to chip, this progression seems to have made the human race increasingly less human." This has happened due to a thoughtless increase in the speed of development and consumerism.

Now the pace has slowed, nature is being purified, and the individual is spending more time with family and loved ones. The warmth of close relationships and living a life of basic necessities has made people see that life can be lived in a way that is not dominated by consumption. One of the messages circulating on social media reads, "When you cannot go outside, go inside." It brings to mind the essence of Bharatiya thought, "Not just outdoors, travel inwards too." That is not to say that there is no downside to the manner in which the world has come to a standstill. The economic wheel of the world has stopped, jobs have been lost,

salaries are due and debts are mounting. People have had to leave the cities where they sought livelihood and return to villages. These circumstances present many conundrums and questions that confront a huge and diverse country like Bharat.

Author Billi Lim, in his book *Dare to Fail*, says, "When you face a problem and take yourself away from it, it becomes a situation. When you are to analyse it, it becomes a challenge. And when you think of your resources to meet the challenge, it becomes an opportunity."

The traditional education system in Bharat has always encouraged innovation and a questioning spirit. Teachers taught students how to learn and how to lead life through their own conduct and example. Right now, education is being provided as a commercial enterprise for the sole purpose of teaching students how to earn money and amp up consumerism. As a result, we have been preparing self-centered and materialistic generations.



So now that the whole world is worried about the new paradigm, can Bharat step up to reassure the world? The answer is yes. Bharat, and only Bharat can do this as it possesses the required qualities

Because the yardstick to measure development and its direction has been urban-centric, all the basic facilities of roads, health, education, employment, etc., have remained city-centric. As a result, there was a migration of Bharat's talent and intelligence from villages to cities, from cities to metros, and from metros to foreign lands. Therefore, villages are emptying out and the congestion in cities is increasing. Life in cities may be convenient, but it is run-of-the-mill, cut off from ground realities and ultimately hollow. And our development trajectory has left us with no option. Globalisation, which was imposed on developing and underdeveloped countries, is now revealing its adverse effects. The world is finally understanding that "globalisation" as it is being practiced is a new incarnation of "colonisation"—cleverly disguised to exploit developing and underdeveloped countries. Everyone is looking for a way out of this vicious cycle.

So, now that things have come to a standstill and the whole world is worried about the new paradigm, can Bharat step up to pacify and reassure the world?

The answer is yes. Bharat, and only Bharat can do this, because only Bharat possesses the three qualities needed for this. One, only Bharat has more than 10,000 years of experience of social and national life. Secondly, Bharat has a

unique spirituality-based holistic and integral view of life and the lived experience of this world view. The modern sci-tech innovations have brought the world close together. So if humanity, with its ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity, has to live together complementing each other, preserving and celebrating diversity, it must turn to Bharat. We inherently believe in unity in diversity and live celebrating all aspects of human life, with controlled consumption. This is what the world has experienced with and observed about Bharat for ages. Bharat had achieved the pinnacle of material prosperity and in fact had the highest share in world trade for centuries. History has witnessed that for thousands of years, the people of Bharat used to go to different countries for business, but they did not attempt to build their colonies on these foreign lands to exploit the people there, nor did they try to enslave or convert them. Rather, they imparted culture and a better, civilised way of living life by their own living examples. This could happen due to our spirituality-based view of life that taught us to look at the entire world as one family, *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*. Wherever we went, we created wealth and spread prosperity.

This shows that Bharat has the vision, expertise and experience to shape a new world order.

MAIL BAG WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Going against people's will

The recurring spectacle of legislators getting herded into resorts is a sad commentary on the current state of Indian democracy. The political class appears to have no qualms in going against people's will. Urgent electoral reforms are needed to stem the rot. **Manohar Alembath, Kannur**

Ideologically bankrupt

The Congress has been fast losing its potential to bounce back, more so in Gujarat. The dwindling Congress stock in that state will help the BJP strengthen its presence in Rajya Sabha. The party is weak not only in terms of strength but has also become bankrupt when it comes to ideology. **KV Seetharamalah, Hassan**

Recall mechanism needed

This is with reference to *Taiwan's Donald Trump ousted in historic recall* (June 7). The voters of the city of Kaohsiung deserve encomiums for recalling their greedy mayor, who had sought a leave of absence for his presidency bid just a few months after assuming office. Democracies like India may adopt the recalling mechanism. **S Madhavan Thampi, Haripad**

Kin can see victims' bodies

Denying close relatives an opportunity to see the body of their kin who died due to Covid-19 was inhumane. The change in the West Bengal government protocol to now allow relatives to see the bodies of victims is welcome. **Naron Vikas, Kanpur**

Matter of pride

It is a matter of pride for us to learn that India, for the first time, was in the top 10 countries in the Climate Change Performance Index ('Time for nature': *Education and the environment*, June 6). Another good news is that our Supreme Court is set to go paperless, which will save around 4,500 trees a year. What was mooted in 2006 will be finally implemented. **Radhika Kumar, Chennai**

Jumbo plight heart-rending

The ghastly killing of the pregnant elephant in Kerala was heart-rending. Despite the excruciating pain, she turned away from human habitations and did not seek revenge. **T Ramadas, Visakhapatnam**

Time to introspect

Recently it has become a habit for some of Kerala's intellectuals and politicians to paint a very rosy picture about life in the state. But then we read about a plethora of gruesome happenings including a gang rape and brutal killings of animals and humans. It is time for us to introspect before praising ourselves. **Ravi Mannethu, Pulad**

Open libraries please

The TN government may issue orders for opening libraries in green and yellow zones with instructions to follow physical distancing and wear masks. Senior citizens, in particular, are eager to visit libraries from where they can bring books to study leisurely in their homes. **S Vaithianathan, Madurai**

A dose of humour

I was getting bored sitting at home due to the restrictions imposed on account of Covid-19 and the article *No Wimbledon. No Cinema. Why live!* (June 7) provided me with something humorous to read. Jokes apart, tennis, theatres, etc., can wait for people to fill stadia and halls. **B Vijayakumar, email**

Gehlot's son got a ticket too

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot has said that the younger generation of Congress leaders have not gone through the grind at the grassroots level. How did his son Vaibhav Gehlot secure a ticket to contest the 2019 Lok Sabha polls? Was the maxim "blood is thicker than water" applied to grant him the ticket? **C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam**



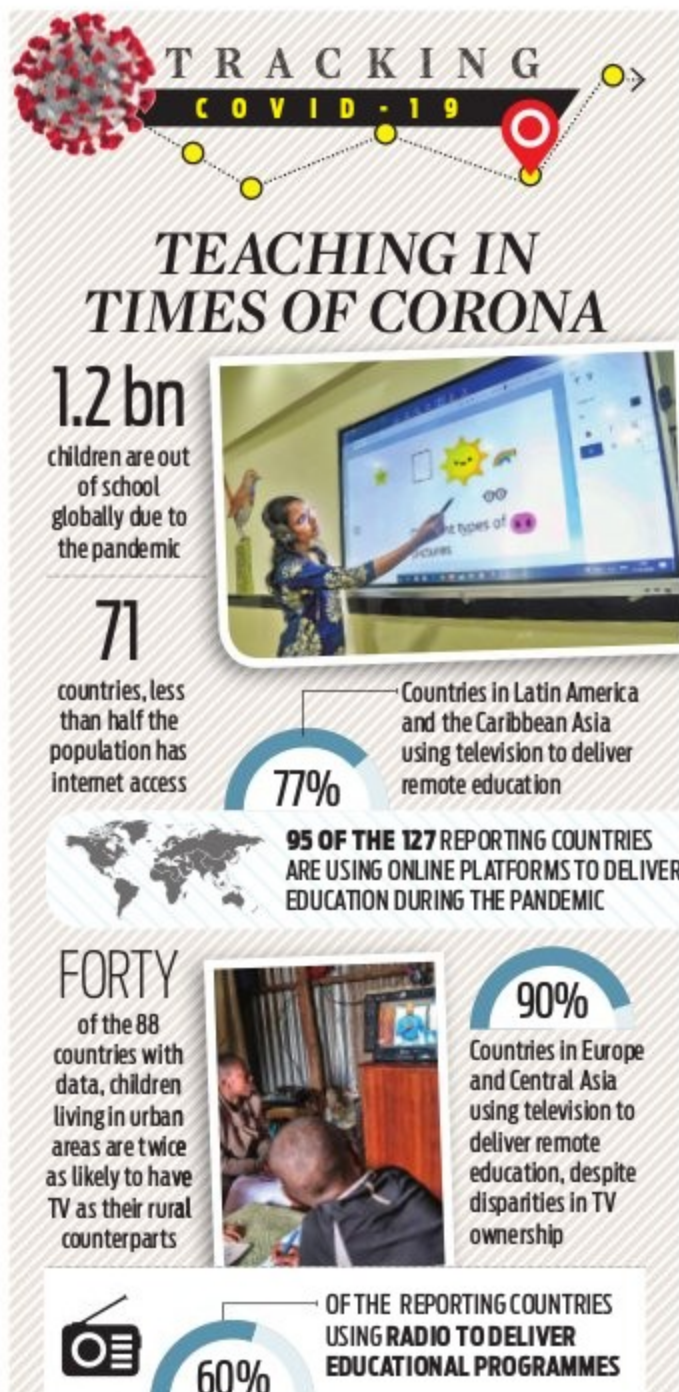
The poorest sections of India's workforce may have faced income losses of nearly ₹4 lakh crore since the abrupt lockdown was announced! — Sitarum Yechury

30 COPS DEAD

About 3,000 police personnel and officers have tested positive for coronavirus so far in Maharashtra and 30 of them have died, state Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said Sunday.

76
in millions**CASES REPORTED**
IN CHHATTISGARH

newindianexpress.com



Action back in skies as 7K flights transported 6L people

Over six lakh passengers have flown on nearly 7,000 flights since domestic operations resumed in the country on May 25. During this period, the DGCA has also given permission to around 640 chartered flights which saw more than one lakh outbound passengers and around 38,000 inbound citizens. "Action is back in our skies," tweeted Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. Speaking about the Vande Bharat Mission, he said more than 65,000 Indians returned by 350 flights operated under the mission since May 6. Over 310 flights had been added in Phase-3, he added. On Udan cargo service, Puri said 588 flights had transported 1,000 tonnes of medicines, equipment, testing kits, PPE, masks, gloves etc. requisitioned by states/UTs, NDRF & medical teams since March 26.

Uttarakhand to issue 'Green Card' to Char Dham pilgrims

The Uttarakhand government has decided to issue special 'Green Card' to vehicles carrying Char Dham pilgrims to ensure only a limited number of them travel. The cards will be issued online to make it easy for visitors and avoid any gathering at government offices. Dipendra Chaudhary, transport commissioner, Uttarakhand, said, "The decision has been taken to avoid delay, confusion and congestion due to offline process. This will also help check the spread of the contagion." On an average, 15,000-20,000 four-wheelers carrying Char Dham pilgrims arrive in the state every year in normal circumstances. "We are expecting 5,000-10,000 this time," Chaudhary said. The state government had decided to open Char Dham shrines but the priests and others have requested it to postpone the yatra till June 30.



SANITISED OFFERING
A Sikh devotee stands in front of sanitiser machine at Sis Gani Gurudwara in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVENE NIGI

Highest single-day spike for 3rd day in a row in Bengal

West Bengal witnessed the highest single-day surge in COVID-19 cases for the third consecutive day on Sunday, with 449 people testing positive for the infection in 24 hours, taking the tally in the state to 8,187, the health department said. At least 13 people died of the disease during the period, raising the death toll to 324, it said. Of the fresh deaths, seven were from the metropolis, three from neighbouring North 24 Parganas, two from Howrah and one from Darjeeling, the department said in its bulletin. Earlier, 72 coronavirus-afflicted people had died in the state due to comorbidities and COVID-19 in those cases was 'incidental', the bulletin said. Of the 449 new COVID-19 cases, 84 was reported from Paschim Medinipur district, 74 from Kolkata, 68 from North 24 Parganas, and 37 each from Howrah and Hooghly.

'INCLUDE YOGIC WAY OF LIFE IN EDU SYSTEM'

The education system in India is not entirely wholesome and should be tweaked to create awakened souls rather than teaching people about the yogic way of life at age of 50 or 60. "As a student, we should know the best of both worlds — Eastern as well as Western," said Indic scholar Dushyanth Sridhar in conversation with SASTRA Deemed-to-be University Vice Chancellor S Vaidhyasubramaniam and senior journalist and author Kaveree Bamzai, on TNE's Expressions, a series of live webcasts with people who matter.

Stressing on education to evolve post-Covid in India, Sridhar also said students and parents must not oppose online education simply because it is new, but take what is good from it.



Answering a question on how the current generation of students should be taught about the virtue of self-discipline, especially while studying online, Sridhar said it has to come from within.

In Valmiki's Ramayan, when Hanuman couldn't find Sita initially, he wanted to commit suicide at one juncture. "The very next second he thinks what repercussions will his action have on Sugriva, Ram and Lakshman. He says he will motivate himself and find Sita. Similarly, self-discipline to a very small extent can be taught by an institution but it is up to the individual to realise and practise it. If he fails to do so even after the pandemic times then we have to live with it. He has to live with it and

we have to live with such people in the society," said Sridhar.

Speaking about the convergence of ancient and modern medicine attempting to find a cure for Covid-19, Sridhar, who is an alumnus of BITS Pilani and has worked with tech companies like TCS, said, "We are looking at raw nature for solutions. Ayurveda and Siddha are largely preventive in nature and modern medicine is more curative. They work on different fields. But we can touch both fields. Before Corona happens, I can take turmeric, black pepper, jeera, let them boil and have it with it honey. But suppose I get Corona, I can go to the doctor and take the generic or specific drug. We should appreciate both."

Responding to a question on the discipline people showed during the lockdown, Sridhar, "My value of nature is immaterial whether there's corona or no corona. Otherwise, it isn't about discipline but survival."

When asked about how going to temples and reaching out to God would change, Sridhar, who has extensively researched the Bhagavad Gita, said, "We have very strongly believed that God is everywhere. But God is untouched by the characteristics of the object. Even sitting at home I can practice my religion. After the Corona period, I want to visit the Brihadishvara Temple but that is not to defy that he is not everywhere. He is there at my home as much as he is there at Brihadishvara Temple."

Lockdown impact: Divorce, custody cases see a spike

Cases related to termination from jobs, unpaid salaries also rise compared to pre-Covid days

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

IT'S not just cases of domestic violence that saw a rise during the prolonged Covid-mandated lockdown. In the midst of the pandemic, there has also been a surge in the number of cases related to divorce and child custody.

Mumbai, which tops the list of maximum coronavirus cases in the country, also saw the highest number of divorce cases being filed during the lockdown period. Post-corona, the city saw a nearly three-fold increase in cases pertaining to divorce and women-related issues being filed. From an average of 1,280 cases in a month, their numbers went up to 3,480 during the lockdown. Delhi was at the second spot.

Another category of legal cases that has seen a big jump in the post-lockdown period pertains to job loss and salary cut. With many business establishments sacking employees and employ-

ers unable to pay monthly wages to their staff, fully or partially, a large number of people have opted to take the legal route against termination and unpaid salaries.

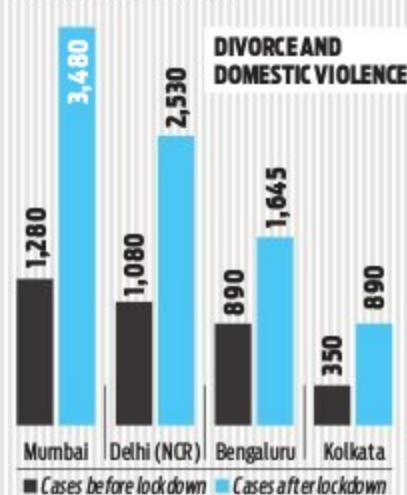
Arvind Singhatiya, founder and CEO, Legalkart said, "There is a rising trend of divorce cases and in the long run, we don't see a respite... (as) couples spend more time together with all the restrictions around."

Explaining the reason behind the rise in cases, he said challenges related to work from home and pressure of household work has increased a lot. "Also, we saw a sudden spurt in terminations in lockdown and it will continue for some time till businesses get settled in the new scenario," he added.

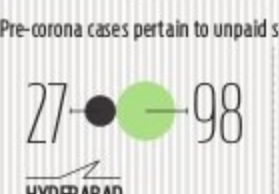
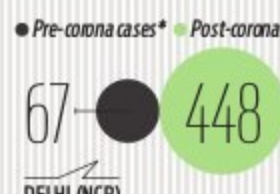
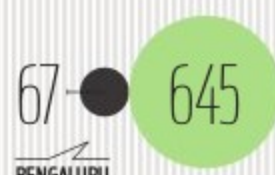
Advocate Krishna Sharma advises his client to go for out-of-court settlements and said this has worked wonders for several couples who amicably resolved their differences and are now leading a happy life.



Not quite feeling at home under lockdown



UNPAID SALARY AND TERMINATION



AID TO MIGRANTS

Sena lashes out at Sood, Cong backs the actor

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

ACTOR Sonu Sood, who has received widespread praise for helping arrange transport for migrant workers stuck in Mumbai to reach home, came under attack from Shiv Sena, with party leader Sanjay Raut calling him a 'BJP stooge' who is trying to show the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maharashtra government in a poor light.

In an article in the Sena mouthpiece *Saamana*, Raut questioned as to how one man had done so much work when the entire state and centre government machinery struggled to tackle the crisis. "The person who is behind Sonu Sood's work is Shankar Pawar. He is the president of Rashtriya Banjara Seva Sangh and was seen in many photographs with Sood. Pawar is close to the BJP-RSS," Raut said, adding that Sood's outreach to the migrants was "a deliberate attempt to discredit and undermine" the work of the state government and other social workers and actors.

Congress leader Abhishek Manu Singhvi, however, backed the actor. "Why slam Sonu Sood if he is genuinely helping? If a private citizen comes forward (IF GENUINE) to help citizens, they should be welcomed & encouraged as it fills a gap. States with best intentions may be unable to do all," tweeted Singhvi.

India within touching distance of single-day Covid tally of 10K

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

INDIA reached yet another grim Covid-19 milestone when it overtook Spain to become the fifth worst hit country in the global pandemic on Saturday. With 2,46,628 confirmed cases, the country is now behind only the US, Russia, Brazil and the UK. The trend of single-day high continued as 9,971 fresh cases were registered. The death toll went up to 6,929 with 287 new fatalities reported.

On a positive note, a total of 1,19,293 patients have recovered. The highest 2,739 cases were in Maharashtra, taking it total tally to 82,968 cases. The state has lost 2,969 lives so far with 120 new deaths reported on Friday.

Delhi is also seeing a consistent

ent rise in deaths with toll reaching 761 — third highest in the country — as 53 more died in a day.

In Gujarat, which has 19,592 confirmed cases, 29 overnight deaths were reported till Saturday morning, taking the count to 1,219. The state has the highest case-fatality ratio which experts say could be the result of late detection and improper medical management of patients.

Across India, a total of 46,66,386 RT-PCR tests have been conducted with 1,42,069 being in last 24 hours. But experts feel given India's huge population, this needs to be ramped up further quickly. Samples tested per million in the country stands at 3074.4 while the incidence per million is 157.2.

Handball player turns salesgirl, pleads govt for help

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

JUST days after an archer forced to sell vegetables in the lockdown appealed to the Jharkhand government for financial help, an 18-year-old national-level handball player has also come up with a similar plea.

Shabnam, 18, who represented Jharkhand in National Handball Championship in 2019 and several other junior championships earlier also, has been forced to take up the job of a salesgirl at a bakery shop in Jamshedpur to support her family, which is struggling hard to make ends meet.

Her father works as a security



guard and brother as an electrician. With the income of both dipping in the lockdown and not enough to support the family, Shabnam decided to take up the job, compromising with her pas-

sion — handball.

"Initially, my parents were supporting my studies and requirements. After I passed class 10 examinations, I felt that it was becoming difficult for them to

bear the expenses of my studies and special diet required for grooming me as a sports girl. Therefore, I decided to support them by taking up the first job that I managed to get with the help of a friend," said Shabnam.

She wants to play international handball and represent the country, but does not have the resources to train. "I request the state government to make arrangements for providing financial support for me so that I can pursue handball further," said Shabnam. Poonam Rai, who has been coaching Shabnam for the last five years, believes she has the potential to excel provided she gets financial support.



A worker cleans the statue of Lord Jesus at the St. Teresa's Church in Kolkata | PTI

Heads of religious bodies hail unlocking of places of worship

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

OVER 800 monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India, including places of worship, can be opened to the public from Monday in accordance with the government's 'Unlock 1' guidelines, the Ministry of Culture said on Sunday.

These are among the 3,691 centrally-protected monuments which were shut down in mid-March amid the pandemic. "Today, the Culture Ministry has approved the opening of 820 of its living monuments under the ASI from June 8," Culture Minister Prahlaad Singh Patel tweeted on Sunday.

Sources said around 65 ASI monuments in Maharashtra are unlikely to be opened in view of the large number of coronavirus cases in the state.

Of the centrally protected monuments, 114 are in north India, 144 in central India, 170 in the west, 279 in the south and 103 in the east. Agra in the north region has 35 living monuments. The Taj Mahal will be closed for visitors.

Besides ASI protected religious places, all other places of worship in the country will also

Places of worship can do wonders in healing people. In times of crisis, positivity is much required and religious places provide just that. They should not have been shut in the first place."

MS Sirsa, head of Delhi Gurdwara Committee

open for public from Monday. Committees and chiefs of several religious places that this newspaper spoke to welcomed the decision and said opening of religious places will help people in dealing with the trauma caused by the pandemic.

President of Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee Manjinder Singh Sirsa said, "Places of worship can do wonders in healing people. In times of crisis, positivity is much required and religious places provide just that. They should not have been shut in the first place."

Religious leaders however, appealed to people to follow all norms and take all precautions. Vice-president of Jamaat-e-Islami Hind Salim Engineer said, "Of course, people should strictly follow all guidelines and protocols while visiting religious places but this was required as religious places provide emotional, psychological and spiritual strength to people which is all the more important in the times of crisis."

Bishop Warris Masih of Church of North India said churches will open but congregations will remain prohibited.

Monuments to be opened in various states

Of the ASI-protected monuments allowed to open, Karnataka has 153 followed by Uttar Pradesh at 111. While Gujarat has 77 such monuments, Tamil Nadu has 75. The Qutub archaeological area and Lal Gumbad are some of the ASI monuments in Delhi that will open up from Monday.



Punjab: Labour shortage hits paddy farmers

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

SOWING season is almost upon the farmers in Punjab, but they are a worried lot as an exodus of migrant workers means labour charges is up by nearly twice the usual rates.

Farmers don't have time as paddy sowing is to begin on June 10 and last for about 20-25 days. Basmati sowing follows and culminates by last week of July end or early August.

Each year, about 6 lakh workers are engaged for sowing paddy and basmati in 23 lakh hectare and 6.2 lakh hectare area.

About 2 lakh migrants arrive from UP, Bihar and other states for one month.

But as only about five per cent of skilled migrant labourers are left due to the Covid lockdown, local workers are demanding anything between ₹4,500 and ₹5,500 per acre as against ₹2,500 to ₹3,600 per acre in normal times.

Though migrant labourers are willing to return, they want farmers to facilitate transportation which involves inter-state consultations, red tape and high transportation costs. "We are facing a shortfall of around 40 per cent in labour workforce. Many panchayats have passed resolutions

asking farmers not to pay more ₹3,000 per acre to workers," says Balbir Singh Rajewal, president, Bhartiya Kisan Union, Punjab.

For encouraging farmers grow maize and cotton, Punjab has asked the Centre to raise the Minimum Support Price of maize from ₹1,760 per quintal to ₹1,815 per quintal and give incentives to set up maize-based units. The government anticipates that maize cultivation will go up from 1.60 lakh hectare to 3 lakh hectare this season. Similarly, cotton cultivation is expected to go up from 4 lakh hectare to 5.5 lakh hectare.

Director (agriculture) Sutanar Kumar Airi says overall paddy cultivation area should fall from 29.21 lakh hectare to 26.2 lakh hectare. "Labour shortage is expected to be 15 per cent, but it should be met locally,"

Punjab has set a target that 25 per cent of paddy seedling transplantation will involve no human intervention. Farmers are modifying wheat seeders at a cost of around ₹3,000 for the purpose. Agriculture economist Dr Sucha Singh Gill says, "it will reduce the dependency on labour and also take less time. Area under cotton is expected to increase as less labour is required as compared to paddy."

Talks to end standoff will go on: MEA

Says Indian, China army leaders agree that peace along LAC essential for overall development of bilateral ties

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

IN what seems to be an indication that there was no breakthrough achieved in the Army commander-level talks to resolve the Line of Actual Control (LAC) standoff, India on Sunday said New Delhi and Beijing will continue military and diplomatic engagements.

"The meeting between the Indian and Chinese army commanders took place in a cordial and positive atmosphere. Both sides agreed to work towards resolving the situation through

peaceful means and in line with existing agreements for peace along the frontier," a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs said.

According to the statement, both sides were of the view that the agreement between the leaders that peace and tranquillity in the border regions was essential for the overall development of bilateral ties. "Both sides also noted that this year marked the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and agreed that an early resolution would contrib-

ute to the further development of the relationship."

The statement comes a day after a delegation led by commander of the 14 Corps Lieutenant General Harinder Singh held an almost six-hour meeting with a delegation led by commander of the South Xinjiang military region Major General Liu Lin at Moldo on the Chinese side of

the LAC.

Sources said that the talks concluded inconclusively and also maintained that it would be a long affair to resolve the stand off.

On Friday, both New Delhi and Beijing, in virtual diplomatic talks between Joint Secretary (East Asia) Naveen Srivastava and director general in the Chinese Foreign Ministry, agreed

not to let their differences escalate into disputes.

The talks come almost a month after standoffs were reported between Indian Army troops and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops in Sikkim and Ladakh regions. While the Chinese have accused Indian troops of crossing over the LAC, New Delhi has maintained that all activity by troops has been on the Indian side and accused the Chinese of hampering patrolling operations along the LAC. The two Asian countries share a 3,488-kilometer long border.



Vehicles outside a resort in Rajasthan where Gujarat Congress MLAs are kept to avoid poaching ahead of RS polls | B K KUMAR

Poaching fear: Congress packs MLAs to posh resorts in party-ruled states

MUMBAI/JAIPUR: After the resignation of nine Congress MLAs ahead of the June 19 Rajya Sabha polls, the Congress party has moved its MLAs to resorts and bungalows to prevent their poaching by the BJP.

In the 182-member Gujarat Assembly, BJP has 103 MLAs and the opposition Congress 65. The BJP has fielded Abhay Bhardwaj, Ramila Bara and Narhari Amin for the Rajya Sabha polls, while the Congress candidates are senior leaders Shaktisinh Gohil and Bharat-sinh Solanki. With reduced numbers, the Congress is likely to see only one of its candidates making it to the Rajya Sabha while the BJP is likely to retain all the three seats it held.

Congress spokesperson Manish Doshi said the party has decided to shift its MLAs at safe locations. "BJP is poaching our

MLAs ahead of the Rajya Sabha polls. We have to protect them. This is very unfortunate that the BJP is doing politics and destroying the democratic values despite a pandemic."

A senior Congress leader from Maharashtra said the state unit suggested to its Gujarat counterpart that the MLAs can be brought in Maharashtra. "We have got a government in Maharashtra, which is close to Gujarat. The MLAs can be easily brought in Maharashtra," the Congress leader.

About 25 MLAs are now staying at a resort in Congress-ruled Rajasthan. Four Con-

gress MLAs were shifted two days ago to the resort On Saturday evening, 21 more MLAs reached the resort in Sirohi located on the Gujarat-Rajasthan border. Another group of about 40 MLAs have also been reportedly moved to Rajkot district. Gularat MLAs were brought in to Jaipur earlier. But after the Corona crisis led to the postponement of RS elections in March, they had returned.

"We are all together. No one can lure us. Those who wanted to sell themselves have done so but we are not worried at all," Patan Congress MLA Kirit Patel said. **ENS**

BJP leaders question travel during lockdown

BJP leaders, including the Chairman of the Sirohi Municipal Committee, has questioned the Congress' move of shifting MLAs to Rajasthan amid the lockdown. They have asked the administration to look into how this episode was done in contravention of lockdown norms.



Volunteers carry out thermal tests of residents at Dharavi, a Covid hotspot in Mumbai, during the ongoing lockdown on Sunday | PTI

Salary cut for govt staff not attending work

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE Maharashtra government has warned its employees of decuting one-week salary if they fail to attend the work from Monday.

Government offices will restart with 10 per cent staff or 10 persons, whichever is more. Government has issued a circular to its employees to attend work and inform shift head. It has also informed that those who miss work without any prior notice during the pandemic will face stern action.

The circular reads that the employees can use WhatsApp to facilitate the work and maintain social distancing.

Maharashtra chief secretary Ajoy Mehta issued the circular stating that there is no need to e-pass for travel within Mumbai Metropolitan region that includes Navi Mumbai, Thane, Kalyan, Panvel among others. Private offices will also function from Monday with 10 employees or 10 per cent whichever is more. They have to follow the social distancing and sanitizing has to be also done in offices.

However, employee unions objected saying the government should first provide the transport facility before deducting salaries. "Many employees in Mantralaya come from like Kalyan and Panvel that is more than 50 km. How come it expect every employee come on its own?" they said.

KASHMIR

Hizbul commander among five militants gunned down

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

FIVE Hizbul Mujahideen militants, including a commander, were killed in a gunfight with security forces in south Kashmir's Shopian district on Sunday.

Acting on a specific input, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by J&K Police, 1 Rashtriya Rifles and 178 Battalion CRPF in Reban area in the early hours today to track down a group of militants. While security men were conducting searches, they came under heavy fire from militants hiding in the area.

Militants and security forces exchanged gunfire till late afternoon, the police said, adding

five Hizbul militants were killed. One of the deceased militants, Hizbul commander Farooq Asad Nalli was wanted for attack on security forces. Farooq, according to the police, was active since 2015.

A police spokesman said identity of the remaining militants was being ascertained. "If any family claims the deceased to be their kin, they can come forward for identification of bodies," he said.

The bodies of militants are now not being handed over to their families and instead being buried by the police in graveyards in north Kashmir's Baramulla and central Kashmir's Ganderbal district to avoid public gatherings.

Houses untouched by cyclone, but kin of Trinamool leaders get relief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

DEPRIVING the people left homeless by Cyclone Amphan, a section of Trinamool leaders in gram panchayat level allegedly diverted the Bengal government's financial assistance to bank accounts of their family members and relatives.

Some of these 'beneficiaries', who live in one or two-storey concrete houses in Nadia and Hooghly districts, received ₹20,000 as compensation.

The irregularities were exposed when a professor of Rabindra Bharati University in Nadia district lodged a complaint with the local Block Development Officer at Kalyani.



Villagers travel in a ferry to Kuchubera after vessels resumes services | PTI

"I was stunned when I came across a list of 28 people who were identified as those whose houses were damaged in the cyclone. Since I reside in the same locality, I identified 20 of them who have either one-storey or two-storey concrete house which were intact,"

said Narayan Haldar. Deep Chatterjee, the BDO, said he received the complaint. "An inquiry is going on." Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said the siphoning off poor people's money reflects the extent of corruption in the Bengal's ruling party.

India's first 100-bed PICU hospital inaugurated

Touted as India's first, a 100-bed Paediatric Intensive Care Unit-Cum- Research Centre (PICU) was inaugurated for AES patients on Saturday at SKMCH in Muzaffarpur. Built in a record eight-month period after being announced by the government in 2019, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated the PICU along with other medical facilities. Kumar also inaugurated a separate 60-bed encephalitis ward at SKMCH and newly built 100-bed Maternal Infant Hospital at Muzaffarpur Sadar hospital. In a video conferencing from Patna, Nitish said his government was committed for providing quality healthcare to the people.



One website for all departments

Promoting transparency in governance, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar started a common integrated website putting all information of every department with directory of officials for the common people. Developed by Information and Public Relations Department, the common integrated website provides all information of every department just at the click of a mouse with regular updation. IPRD minister Neeraj Kumar said. Kumar said transparency in governance is reflected through this website under the leadership of Nitish Kumar. "IT managers and nodal officers of all departments have been trained for this work," a communique from IPRD said. "The information will be updated on a regular basis for the convenience of people."

AI-driven platform to help migrants get job

In a first, state officials are now arranging employments for the migrant workers with the help of an Artificial Intelligence-driven platform. Skill mapping is carried out through this platform at district and state levels by facilitates having direct link through SMS and an app. The migrant labourers are arranged employments according to their skills analysed through this platform, developed by the NIC. Though this platform, final information regarding the employment is sent over migrant mobile and called for work by prospective employers.



Vidhyavahani App for school kids

In a digital initiative, the Bihar education department launched the 'Vidhyavahani' app for providing online education to more than 2 crore of school going children. On this app, all books of Class 1 to 12 are uploaded with the facility of making chapter-wise notes under guidance of teachers. Bihar State Text Books Publication Corporation MD Ranjit K Singh said that the Vidhyavahani app was developed and designed in only 15 days.



2,743

new confirmed Covid-19 cases on Sunday took Bangladesh's case count above 65,000



Beijing	37	24	LC	Los Angeles	30	17	SNY
Colombo	31	25	TDS	Melbourne	11	7	LC
Doha	43	31	SNY	Moscow	23	15	LR
Dubai	40	28	SNY	New York	31	17	LC
Houston	36	26	LC	Singapore	31	26	TDS
Istanbul	29	17	LC	Toronto	19	15	SNY
London	17	8	LR	Washington DC	28	17	SNY

LR: Light Rain HR: Heavy Rain
TDS: Thunderstorm LC: Light Cloud SNY: Sunny

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09 BENGALURU

MONDAY 08.06.2020



JERUSALEM

Bibi calls police killing of Palestinian man a tragedy

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday called the deadly police shooting of an unarmed Palestinian man with autism a 'tragedy,' although he stopped short of apologising for the incident. The 32-year-old Palestinian was chased by Israeli police into a nook in Jerusalem's Old City and fatally shot as he cowered next to a garbage bin.



BEIRUT

Protests in Lebanon turn violent, clashes injure 12

Protesters poured into the streets of the Lebanese capital Saturday to decry the collapse of the economy. It was the first major anti-government rally since authorities relaxed a lockdown imposed in mid-March to fight the spread of the coronavirus. "We came to demand our rights, call for medical care, education and jobs," said 21-year-old student Christina.



PHILADELPHIA

'Horribly wrong' headline costs US editor his job

The Philadelphia Inquirer's chief editor Stan Wischnowski, 58, is resigning after an uproar over a headline lamenting damages to buildings during the violent anti-racism protests in the US. The Inquirer had apologised for a 'horribly wrong' decision to use the headline, 'Buildings Matter, Too,' on a column about vandalism amid 'Black Lives Matter' protests.



TRIPOLI

Libya's UN-allied forces in battle to retake key town

Fighters loyal to Libya's UN-recognised government Sunday kept up their counter-offensive against forces of strongman Khalifa Haftar, but fighting slowed on the outskirts of the strategic city of Sirte. The Mediterranean coastal city—the home of former dictator Moamer Kadhafi—is also a key gateway to the country's major oil fields in the east.



HELSINKI

Man fatally shoots two after car crash in Estonia

A man involved in a car accident opened fire as he fled the scene in southwestern Estonia, leaving two people dead and at least three others wounded, including two children, police said on Sunday. The 32-year-old suspect was apprehended early on Sunday after an extensive police operation near the small town of Lihula, close to where the crash took place.



TEHRAN

Iran opens trial of former deputy head of judiciary

Iran opened the high-profile trial of a former senior judiciary official alongside 21 accused accomplices on Sunday in Tehran, charging them with corruption, money laundering and influence trading. Akbar Tabari is accused of "obstructing justice" against influential senior Iranian officials "by forming a criminal group" within his office.



NEW ORLEANS

Heavy rains lash US's Gulf Coast ahead of storm

Torrential rain pounded the US Gulf Coast on Sunday ahead of the arrival of Tropical Storm Cristobal, which has already spawned a tornado in Florida. Roads flooded in coastal Louisiana and Mississippi, and thousands were without power even before the storm made landfall. It was expected to arrive on US soil late on Sunday.

Peaceful protests cap chaotic week

Floyd's body arrives in Houston for funeral; Trump orders troop withdrawal from capital

WASHINGTON

MASSIVE protests against police brutality nationwide capped a week that began in chaos but ended with largely peaceful expressions that organisers hope will sustain their movement.

Tens of thousands of people marched on Saturday with few reports of problems in scenes that were more often festive than tense.

Collectively, it was perhaps the largest one-day mobilization since Floyd died May 25 and came as many cities lifted curfews imposed following initial spasms of arson, assaults and smash-and-grab raids on businesses. Authorities have softened curbs as the number of arrests plummeted.

The largest US demonstration appeared to be in Washington, where protesters flooded streets closed to traffic.

Most of the protesters wore face masks—a reminder of the



Thousands of people took part in an anti-racism protest in Rome on Sunday. Protests were reported from other European countries including Germany | AP

danger that the protests could exacerbate the spread of the coronavirus.

Meanwhile, Floyd's body arrived in Houston on Sunday for a final memorial service and funeral.

President Donald Trump on Sunday ordered the withdrawal of National Guard troops

from Washington DC.

"I have just given an order for our National Guard to start the process of withdrawing from Washington, DC, now that everything is under perfect control," he tweeted.

In Washington, no significant incidents were reported as protesters took to the streets

near the White House, which was surrounded on all sides by tall fences and security barricades.

Thousands of people took to the streets of European cities on Sunday in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, which has drawn large protests against racism and police brutality around the world.

A massive rally in Rome's sprawling People's Square was noisy but peaceful, with the majority of protesters wearing masks to protect against coronavirus. Participants listened to speeches with many holding up handmade placards saying "Black Lives Matter".

The rally came a day after largely peaceful anti-racism protests took place in cities from Australia to Europe to the US in response to the May 25 death of American Floyd in Minneapolis police's custody.

In Madrid, a few thousand protesters gathered around the US Embassy. Agencies

Tensions between White House, Pentagon at near breaking-point

WASHINGTON

TENSIONS between the White House and Pentagon have stretched to near a breaking point over President Donald Trump's threat to use American military force against street protests triggered by George Floyd's death.

The nub of the problem is that Trump sees no constraint on his authority to use what he calls the "unlimited power" of the military even against US citizens if he believes it necessary. Military leaders generally take a far different view. They believe that active-duty troops, trained to hunt and kill an enemy, should be used to enforce

the law only in the most extreme emergency, such as an attempted actual rebellion. That limit exists, they argue, to keep the public's trust.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper, a West Point graduate who served 10 years on active duty, argued against bringing federal troops into Washington.

In a contentious Oval Office meeting with Trump and others on Monday, the president demanded 10,000 federal troops be sent to the capital city, according to a senior defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

Esper then pushed for governors from several states to send



President Donald Trump's willingness to use the American military power against citizens has alarmed senior Pentagon officials | AP

National Guardsmen as a way of steering Trump away from a buildup of federal forces in Washington, the senior defense official said.

After a night of sometimes violent protesting in Washington last Sunday, Esper pulled several active-duty units, including a military police battalion, to bases just outside the nation's capital. He never called them into action; just po-

sitioning them close to the capital satisfied Trump for the time being, the senior defense official said. On Friday, the last of those active-duty units were being sent back home.

The worry felt among Pentagon leaders is reflected in the Joint Chiefs chairman, Gen. Mark Milley, reaching out privately to Congress in recent days to discuss concerns about use of the military on streets.

Germany shocked as Trump orders US troop pullout

BERLIN

GERMANY on Sunday expressed concerns at reports that US President Donald Trump plans to cut the number of American troops stationed in Germany, amid fears it could weaken a key pillar of NATO defence in the region.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said both countries stood to gain from close cooperation even if the transatlantic relationship had become "complicated" under Trump. Other senior politicians in Berlin were more blunt, slamming the plan as the latest blow to US-German ties and a potential security risk.

"Should it come to the withdrawal of part of the US troops, we take note of this," Maas told the *Bild am Sonntag* daily. "We appreciate the cooperation with the US armed forces that has grown over decades."

Peter Beyer, Chancellor Angela Merkel's coordinator for transatlantic relations, warned that "the German-US relationship could be severely affected" by Trump's decision.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported on Friday that Trump had ordered the Pentagon to slash the number of US military personnel by 9,500 from the current 34,500 assigned in Germany.

Such a move would significantly reduce the US commitment to European defence under the NATO umbrella, and appeared to catch Berlin off guard. But Maas admitted ties with the Trump administration had become strained.

"We are close partners in the transatlantic alliance. But it's complicated," Maas told *Bild*, in a nod to rows ranging from the Iranian nuclear deal to NATO contributions and Berlin's support for a Russian gas pipeline. AFP



Mark Zuckerberg

FB-funded researchers call for curbs on Don's posts

BOSTON

DOZENS of scientists doing research funded by Mark Zuckerberg say Facebook should not be letting President Donald Trump use the social media platform to "spread both misinformation and incendiary statements."

The researchers, including 60 professors at leading US research institutions, wrote the Facebook CEO on Saturday asking Zuckerberg to "consider stricter policies on misinformation and incendiary language that harms people," especially during the current turmoil over racial injustice.

The letter calls the spread of "deliberate misinformation and divisive language" contrary to the researchers' goals of using technology to prevent and eradicate disease, improve childhood education and reform the criminal justice system.

Their mission "is antithetical to some of the stances that Facebook has been taking, so we're encouraging them to be more on the side of truth and on the right side of history as we've said in the letter," said Debora Marks of Harvard Medical School, one of three professors who organised it.

The others are Martin Kampmann of the University of California-San Francisco and Jason Shepherd of the University of Utah. All have grants from a Chan Zuckerberg Initiative program working to prevent, cure and treat neurodegenerative disorders including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

They said the letter had more than 160 signatories. Shepherd said about 10% are employees of foundations run by Zuckerberg. AP

Pak saw world's highest inflation in 2020 fiscal

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN witnessed the highest inflation in the world in the fiscal year 2020 with the country recording a 12-year high at 14.6 per cent in the month of January, forcing policy makers to increase interest rate, the country's central bank said on Sunday.

According to the Inflation Monitor for April issued by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), the country witnessed highest inflation not only in comparison with the developed economies but also with emerging economies, the *Dawn News* reported on Sunday.

The SBP pushed up interest rates to cool down the inflationary pressure during the fiscal year but high rates proved counterproductive as they further increased inflation while the private sector stopped borrowing costly money hampering industrial growth and

services.

The month of January witnessed a 12-year high inflation at 14.6 per cent. In response to the rising prices, the SBP rose the interest rates to 13.25 per cent.

However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the entire economic scenario was turned upside down as demand contraction lowered inflation, forcing the SBP to cut down interest rates to 5.25 per cent within just three months, the daily reported.

The rate cut announcement came as inflation slowed down, falling to 8.2 per cent in May, much lower than the SBP projections for the month.

Detailed graphs accompanying the SBP's Inflation Monitor show Pakistan's inflation, when compared to developing economies like China, Thailand, India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, has fallen since the pandemic. AP

WORLD NEARS 70 LAKH CASES

PARIS

THE world inched closer to 70 lakh coronavirus deaths on Sunday, a little more than five months after China reported first cases on December 27.

There were 69.3 lakh confirmed cases worldwide on Sunday, according to a live virus tracker put up by America's Johns Hopkins University. Health experts, however, believe that the John Hopkins tally falls short of showing the true tragedy of the pandemic.

On Sunday, the total number of Covid-19 deaths crossed four lakh.

A total of 400,052 deaths have now been recorded—a figure that has doubled in the past month and a half.

While almost half of the deaths have been recorded in Europe (183,428), the United States remains the hardest-hit nation with 109,802 deaths from 1,920,061 cases.

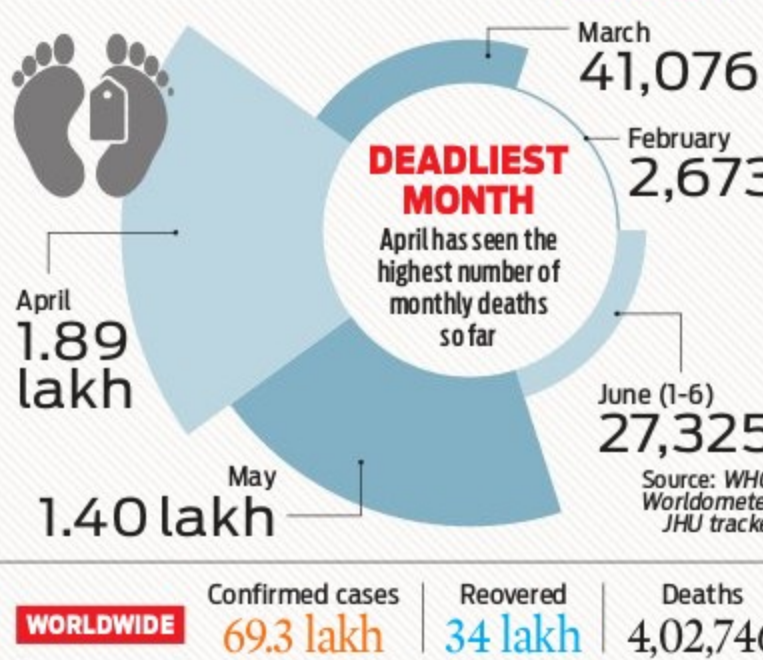
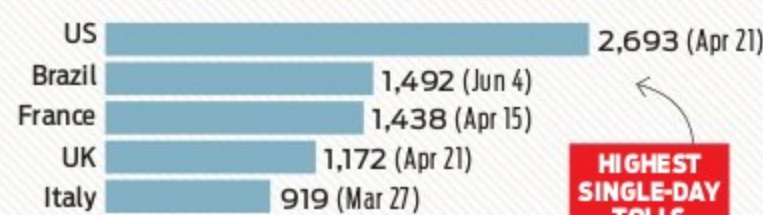
Global toll reaches 4 lakh

The confirmed global death toll from Covid-19 reached at least 4,00,000 on Sunday



Feb 29 The US records first Covid-19 death on its soil. In the 99 days since, the country has added 1.12 lakh deaths to its tally at an average of 1,132 deaths per day

12,532 highest number of deaths in a day so far on April 17



Current Price
₹703.75

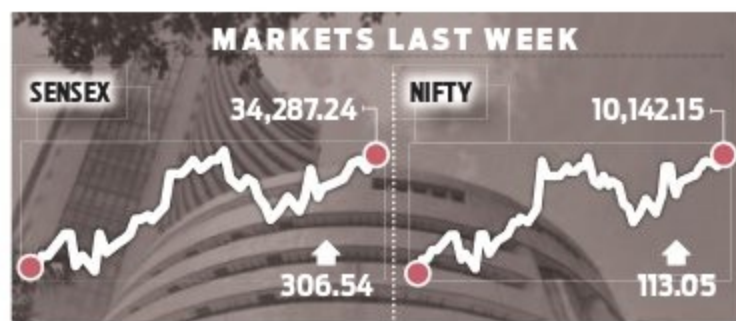
Target Price
₹775

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of TNIE.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Infosys: The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to pose continued near-term challenges on demand, supply, pricing and working capital fronts. Near-term headwinds are expected to impact all verticals and geographies. Beyond near-term challenges, we expect INFOSYS to be a key beneficiary of recovery in IT spends in FY22E. We estimate ~10 per cent earnings CAGR over FY20-22E and ROE of 32 per cent.

— Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd



CAPITAL

RELIANCE JIO RAISES ₹5,683.50 CR FROM AIDA

Reliance Industries on Sunday said it has sold a 1.16 per cent stake in its digital unit to Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) for ₹5,683.50 crore, taking the cumulative funds raised to ₹97,885.65 crore, an amount that will help pare debt at the oil-to-telecom conglomerate. With this investment, Jio Platforms has raised nearly one lakh crore crore from investors in less than 7 weeks.

RATES UP

PETROL, DIESEL PRICES HIKED AFTER 83 DAYS

Petrol and diesel prices were hiked by 60 paise per litre on Sunday as state-owned oil firms restarted daily price revisions after a 82-day hiatus. The petrol price in Delhi was hiked to ₹71.86 per litre from ₹71.26 a litre on Saturday, while diesel rates were increased to ₹69.99 per litre from ₹69.39, according to a price notification. Oil PSUs had kept petrol and diesel rates on hold since March 16.

RAJAS KELKAR

As the first half of the calendar year 2020 comes to a close, equity markets are riding on optimism. US markets are back to the same level as at the start of the year after going down earlier.

In India, equity markets have staged a sharp recovery in April 2020 and held on to those gains in May 2020.

During the month gone by, foreign institutional investors have brought \$1.7 billion of new money to equity markets while domestic institutional investors have put another \$1.5 billion. That is a lot of confidence in a 'gloom and doom' scenario.

The institutional investor response to the rights issue offer of Reliance Industries was overwhelming in the context of the economic scenario. At the same time, companies like Kotak Mahindra Bank, Hindustan Unilever witnessed significant qualified institutional investor offers. They were absorbed quickly too. In the private market, close to \$12 billion was committed to Reliance Jio Platforms from marquee investors around the world. The optimism is primarily driven by a significant amount of money pumped by central banks. Idle cash in banks or even in bonds or risk-free assets is barely giving any returns. Borrowing rates around the world are so low that there is free money available. Over the past one year to March 2020, India's Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy committee (MPC) cut rates of 2.1 per cent.

A lot of investors have found solace in gold as they touch a record high due to the investor interest. However, industrial and consumer demand for gold continues to slump in major markets like China and India.

From India's standpoint, low international oil prices are significant. They save some valuable foreign exchange and keep the current account deficit in check. The latest RBI data shows a record piling up of foreign exchange reserves.

Despite all that enthusiasm, Indian shares have been underperformers in comparison to other major stock markets. The benchmark indices like Nifty and Sensex are down 17 per cent in 2020 thus far. Investors in India are less optimistic than other major markets in the world as Indian equities have relatively underperformed.

There are valid reasons. "Several high-frequency indicators point to dire growth outcomes in the near term," Chetan Ghate, a member of the RBI's MPC said during the monetary policy review. RBI released minutes of that meeting last week.

The committee that sets interest rates has highlighted a demand problem. That means businesses are unlikely to see a significant increase in business volume as people grapple with jobs and incomes and spend less. The Consumer Confidence Survey conducted by RBI in May 2020 paints a grim picture. It shows that the overall Current Situation Index is at a historic low, while the Future Expectations Index reflects high pessimism for the year ahead.

Stockbrokers continue to highlight that profits of any kind are likely to be wiped by the year ending March 2021. If the economic activity slumps in 2020-21, it is not possible for businesses that ride on the nation's economic growth to sell more goods and services and make money. Financial markets would toe that line, thinking sooner than later. The most crucial point of concern is the inability expressed by the RBI in their communication about growth and inflation prospects. They cite weak data for not making an assessment. That is a bit unprecedented as financial markets depend on RBI to provide cues.

There are many doom-sayers in the market. Predictions for economic growth vary depending on the perspective used. Since the consumption expenditure of both the government and the people is a dominant part of India's economic growth, we may have to worry about the collapse in the consumer confidence over the next year. The government has limited resources, and individuals are losing jobs or staring at an income uncertainty.

STOCK MARKETS ARE RIDING ON OPTIMISM

From an equity investment standpoint, investors need a long-term perspective since such crises keep near-term share prices in check

CAPITAL FLOWS IN, BUT CONCERNS REMAIN

\$1.7 billion
worth of capital has been invested by foreign institutional investors in equity markets over the past month

\$1.5 billion
has been invested by domestic institutional investors in India's equity markets over the past month

The optimism is primarily driven by a significant amount of money pumped by central banks. Idle cash in banks or even in bonds or risk-free assets is barely giving any returns.

The most crucial point of concern is the inability expressed by the RBI in communications about growth and inflation prospects, where they cite weak data for not making an assessment. That is a bit unprecedented since financial markets depend on the RBI to provide cues



TAPAS RANJAN

SUPPORT

One lakh acres cultivated for free by TAFE

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

TRACTORS and Farm Equipment Ltd (TAFE) has cultivated one lakh acres of land for free over 60 days during the current cropping season in Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The initiative was aimed at mitigating the impact of the pandemic on operations of small and marginal farmers during the critical rabi harvest and kharif sowing season, the company said.

In a statement, the company said it had launched a free tractor rental service in these states from April 1, 2020, for a period of 90 days through its JFarm Services platform. "The scheme received an overwhelming response from the farming community and within 60 days of its implementation, over 100,000 acres have been cultivated and rental service has been provided benefiting thousands of farmers in this crucial cropping season," the company said.

TAFE said that it was able to implement the scheme for small and marginal farmers with the administrative support of respective state governments and added that all benefits received have been directly given to the farmers. A small farmer in a state like Tamil Nadu stands to save ₹4,000-5,000 due to the initiative, TAFE said.

Micro life insurance plan eyes group segment

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

WITH many sections of the population unlikely to command enough economic heft to be able to invest in flexible life insurance policies during the pandemic, life insurer Max Life has launched its Group Saral Suraksha Plan—a Micro Insurance product for a group of people which offers flexibility in terms of tenure and payment options.

According to the company, the new plan is designed to provide financial protection to both members and borrowers of micro-finance institutions,

cooperatives, small finance banks, and other affinity groups.

The plan offers options to enhance the protection of the group members by providing cover against the risk of total and permanent disability (TPD) caused due to accidents. This option, when triggered, will provide the sum assured payable under the plan. Making the plan relevant to the current situation, death claims on account of COVID-19 will also be covered, subject to the policy terms and conditions.

"Group micro insurance products are ideal for members and borrowers of groups that wish to avail an insurance plan but may not have an optimum credit record to avail individual cover. With the new plan, we aim to provide financial support and protection to members of these groups, in case of unfortunate events such as death or total and permanent disability," Aalok Bhan, Director and Chief Marketing Officer, Max Life said.

The plan offers flexible policy terms, from as low as one month up to a period of 120

months and offers options to avail cover for a single life, joint life-for spouses, children and parents including in-laws-and co-borrower/co-applicants (in case of loans only) for enhanced protection. Additionally, the plan provides policyholders the option to choose from two types of cover: a level cover, where the sum assured remains constant throughout the term; and reducing cover, (available under single premium variant only) where cover will be as per the chosen loan schedule, with the option to reduce the cover on a monthly or annual basis.



BINITA JAISWAL @ Chennai

The next time you get an email claiming to be an advisory related to Coronavirus or a website selling safety gear or touting cheap treatments for Covid-19, then beware. And, avoid clicking on any suspicious link.

Cyber security experts say that the pandemic-related scams are the hottest trend in cyber attacks, as fraudsters try to take advantage of the unease and panic.

Luis Corrons, security evangelist at cyber security company Avast told this publication that ransomware attacks have grown by 20 per cent globally during the pandemic—March

and April—compared to January and February this year.

"Scammers are targeting victims by sending out text messages, emails appearing to be sent from a legitimate company or organisation like the WHO or the Union Ministry of Health. These messages typically include a link taking the potential victim to a site that may look real, but in reality is just a simple web page designed to gather personal information like credit card details, login credentials, and even home addresses. Some of these cyber attacks may even get access to your system. Customers need to be very perceptive these days," said Corrons speaking to this publication.



Avoid suspicious messages selling Covid-19 cures

Experts say that scammers are targeting victims by sending out text messages and emails claiming to be from a legitimate company or organisation like the WHO or the Union Ministry of Health



MONEY-WISE

No one knows for sure what returns one will receive

Whenver I do an article on returns and say, for example, that an investor may get 18 per cent from an investment, somebody will remark "this is too high". Of course, a few will say 18 per cent is not possible, only 12 per cent is possible. Or something to that effect.

The fact is that none of us know what rate of return we will get over the next 30 years. Fairly obvious, I thought. We put a number because Excel, or whichever other software we use, cannot work with "I do not know" as an input. We assume that a ₹5,000 per month Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) over 20 years at 12

per cent will mean there will be ₹55 lakh in that fund.

That is all. It is just proof that compounding works. It does not mean that you will get 12 per cent or 18 per cent in that fund. You may get 12 per cent or 23 per cent return. It is just an assumption. In real life, you will be watching the investment on a day-to-day basis.

The important thing to learn is that you need to create funds that will remain untouched over real long periods of time.

In real life, you can, and perhaps will, measure the returns on a regular basis—so you do not need to do a guessing game today, at the beginning of your long journey.

When a client asks an Advisor, "What return will I get?", the best thing to do is to ask the client to read this post. If you are an investor, save this post and read it again and again. Whenever you feel like asking this question—"kitnamilega?"—India's favourite question!

None of us know how much return we will get over 4 weeks, 4 years or 4 decades. We just have no idea.

However, you start a journey assuming that you need ₹55 lakhs in 20 years. So, you have to do a ₹5,000 SIP for 20 years. If this return falls over 2-3 years, the only thing you can do is to increase the SIP amount you are investing. If your adviser talks as though he controls everything, remember that he controls nothing. As an investor, your eye should firmly remain on the target you have set yourself, that is all.

So, if you think that the 'r' (return) that you are getting is not enough, try increasing the amount you are investing in the SIP by a small measure.

Nobody knows what will be the "return" or "r" in the compounding formula. Not, Donald Trump, Narendra Modi, Nirmala Sitharaman... Why, even Warren Buffett does not know how much return you will get over the next few weeks, months, years or decades. We are, all of us, just guessing.

Every year we get a number on the yield that an investment has provided, or return that an investor has achieved.

Say we get 8 per cent return in the first year instead of 12 per cent, we may not do anything. However, if we get 8 per cent return for the first five years, we will take corrective action. We may increase the SIP amount to ₹6,000, or whatever we can.

Or, in a worst case scenario, we may push behind the goal back by a year or two.

For the rest, we assume some numbers so that we can use Excel. And, as investors, we monitor them on a continuous basis so that we can take corrective action if needed to meet our goal.

Apart from this, the other ransomware strains that have been found active in the Indian region were Hermes, Sodinokibi, STOP ransomware, and CrySiS.

Corrons also said that there has now been a shift in the types of cyber attacks, since cyber criminals are taking advantage of the fact that many people are working from home and looking for information online around the virus.

Corrons points out that there has been a significant rise in the number of malicious websites selling masks, PPE suits, pills and even fake Covid-19 treatments.

The cyber security company is also witnessing an uptick in

demand for its products.

"Due to an increase in people working from home, there has been an improvement in Desktop business through the latter part of the first quarter. We have a strong user base in India, with more than 19.5M PC and Android users. The Indian market is a mobile first market with the majority of users accessing the internet on their mobile devices. Protecting mobile devices will continue to stay a priority for us. Our threat detection network is among the most advanced in the world, allowing us to detect threats as they appear," said Peter Turner, Senior Vice President & General Manager, Consumer, Avast.



Many things are special about CSK. The management treats players like extended family. CSK have been shrewd and loyal in their auction strategies. Dhoni has been the cornerstone of this attitude. The example he sets ensures that everyone wants to be their best. Words are not needed, because excellence is at the core of CSK.

— On what is special about CSK and skipper MS Dhoni

SIMN' SWING

Maintaining ball for reverse, India pacers shining at home & cricket's future. Bowling guru Eric Simons opens up to **Ashok Venugopal**

Movement of the cricket ball is one of the things to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The topic has been a bone of contention in the fraternity, with quite a few bowlers questioning the context of their roles when the sport restarts in the future. Some even believe that banning the use of saliva will completely alter the outlook of the game.

Eric Simons, former bowling coach of India and South Africa, believes that reverse swing will still be possible. The bowling consultant of Chennai Super Kings also praises the Indian pace attack and MS Dhoni. Excerpts from a chat in which Simons spoke from Cape Town...

How is the situation back in South Africa?
So far it is fine, but like everywhere, there is uncertainty about how this pandemic will affect us in the future.

Will South African cricketers resume practice anytime soon?
They will start under strict guidelines and control protocols in place. We need to get back to some sort of normalcy as soon as possible.

Some former players are saying reverse swing can be achieved if players take care of the ball by shining one side. Do you agree?
Bowlers can use sweat but I am not in favour of any foreign substance being allowed to shine the ball in the place of saliva. They can still get the ball to swing with the help of sweat, particularly in hot, humid conditions like India. Teams have to be extremely diligent in looking after the ball. But this could be a little more difficult in the cold months in England when players will not perspire much.

India players are yet to start having nets. After such a long layoff, what do you think should be the approach of the bowlers when they start bowling?

The irony of the break is that a lot of bowlers will recover fully from niggles they have probably been carrying with them for a long time. Hopefully, they have used the time to do physical conditioning and not allowed the body to grow weak. I would recommend a full month of drill bowling to get the body ready while slowly moving to longer run-ups. They need to be patient and not pick up injuries because of inactivity.

How long do you think it will take to get back in rhythm? Will clubs games be beneficial?

It will not take long to get back up to top control and bowling performance once they are at full effort because most of them are extremely talented with deep seated muscle memory. Once at full effort, I think most will feel back in control within four good practice sessions. Playing any match will help after a good period of practice, because while nets are crucial, nothing beats the competitive edge of a match to prepare again.

Who among the India bowlers you are impressed with?
All the seamers. Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Ishant Sharma and Umesh Yadav have all been impressive in Tests as a group. Ishant needs to be applauded for the way he has continued to grow and evolve as a bowler, especially after taking a lot of criticism for a long time. In T20s, Deepak Chahar continues to impress.

Glenn McGrath has rated Pat Cummins as the best fast bowler in the world.

What's your take?

He (Cummins) has been very impressive and his role in the team has shown his value. One needs to see him bowl more on flat wickets like the Indian bowlers to properly assess how good he is. I have felt the Indian seam group has been outstanding in home conditions where in the past they played just a support role to the spinners. They are now a real strike force even in conditions where seam bowlers traditionally struggle.

What is the mindset of South African players? Are they worried about the future post Covid?

Tough to say but I think cricketers and administrators have a mindset of trying to 'find ways to play' rather than decide 'if we are going to play'. We need to find ways to get back to playing and not let this situation defeat us.

When will club and first-class cricket resume in South Africa?

We are in the winter at the moment so not missing any domestic cricket. It's due to start again in October. Hopefully by then we are back to playing.

Will the virus outbreak affect the prospects of Mzansi Super League T20 tournament, which is supposed to be held later in the year?

It is planned for November-December, so everyone is hopeful it can happen.

The IPL is postponed and people are eagerly waiting for it. Your thoughts?

Everyone is hoping that it will happen. Planning authorities need to be trying everything they can to 'find a way to play' rather than deciding 'if we are going to play'. I think there is a very good chance it will happen perhaps with all matches being played at a few venues and teams being housed in the same hotels with strict hygiene protocols.

INDRANEEL DAS @ Chennai

MANDATORY Covid-19 tests before resumption of training. Briefs and debriefs in the open instead of inside a hall. Safe-distance protocols between sailors and boats. Launch of only Asiad and Olympic classes for training. These are some of the highlights of the standard operating procedures put in place by the Tamil Nadu Sailing Association (TNSA).

The Yachting Association of India (YAI) gave a go-ahead to the state and other units to begin training as per state-government restrictions and directives. YAI is not conducting any national camp soon due to travel and various other restrictions in place in different states. However, it is understood that sailors can begin training by adhering to Sports Authority of India's and the state body's guidelines.

Since both the national body's primary sailing centres — Mumbai and Chennai

McGregor announces retirement for third time



MMA superstar Conor McGregor announced his retirement from the sport on Sunday. The two-division UFC world champ said his fighting days were over in a Twitter message. The controversial Irish fighter previously announced his retirement from the sport in March last year. Before that, he had said he was giving up sport in April 2016.

States get SAI nod for sailing practice

CC We have our SOP in place and hope to get permission from the port (in Chennai). We will begin training for elite sailors, as some of them attempt to qualify for Olympics.

Ashok Thakkar, TNSA president

DOs & DON'Ts IN CHENNAI

- Staff to maintain safe distance
- Boats should be parked with a gap of 5 to 6 feet between them
- Coaches to not have indoor briefing and debriefing sessions
- Google Duo and Zoom sessions recommended
- Launch time between boats should be 45 seconds to a minute
- Motor boat for safety to be launched first
- Only Olympic and Asian Games classes to be launched
- Athletes should wear masks at all times inside premises
- While on water masks can be removed
- Covid-19 test mandatory for athletes before resuming training
- Athletes should maintain safe social distancing

— are severely affected by the pandemic, and assembly of sailors at one particular centre might not be feasible, all centres across India can start training individually at their own premises.

Since western coast is not conducive for training during monsoon, there are suggestions that the camps be moved to safer places like Visakhapatnam or Rameshwaram, if not Chennai. But YAI is preferring to wait for some time before

taking a decision.

However, TNSA is planning to begin training soon. The body sent a request on Saturday to Chennai Port Authority, seeking permission to allow elite sailors to train at the club. It also informed YAI that if required, Chennai's facilities can be used for a national camp.

According to TNSA president Ashok Thakkar, only Olympic and Asian Games classes will initially be allowed. Around seven or eight sailors

— like Asiad bronze-medallists KC Ganapathy and Varun Thakkar, and Varsha Gautham — might train soon. "We have our SOP in place and hope to get permission from the port. Our sailors need to train," said Thakkar, who is in charge of fund-raising for YAI.

"We will begin training for elite sailors right now, as some of them attempt to qualify for Olympics. These are trying times, indeed. We hope we're able to make it and form a strong team."

Thakkar said that YAI has asked every sailor to start practice. "The national coach is in Mumbai. He might start training sailors there."

Sailor Nethra Kumanan, who won laser-radiat bronze at the Sailing World Cup in Miami, has already begun training in Spain. She has been stuck there since the lockdown in March. The Asian Olympic qualifying event slated for March 15-28 in Abu Dhabi was postponed due to the pandemic.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Manchester United, Chelsea and Arsenal were among the clubs that played practice matches on Saturday. A glance at the dashes and the progress Premier League has been making before its June 17 return...



ARSENAL HIT SIX

Arsenal, who face Manchester City on June 18 (00:45 IST), hosted second-tier side Charlton at Emirates Stadium. **Eddie Nketiah** scored a hat-trick in the Gunners' 6-0 win, with forwards Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Alexandre Lacazette also netting.

PASSING TESTS

The league also announced on Saturday that the sixth round of Covid-19 testing — of 1,195 players and staff across the 20 clubs, on Thursday and Friday — produced no positive cases. Saturday's announcement means there have been just 13 positive results from an overall 6,274 tests. Testing will continue on a bi-weekly basis as officials look to resume the season.



92

Number of fixtures that are yet to happen, after the season was stalled in March.

ACTION-PACKED

A reconfigured schedule released on Friday initially has 32 games in 16 days. Only two days will be sans action. With games coming thick and fast, clubs have agreed to make up to five substitutions per match from an expanded nine-strong bench.

IN-HOUSE BATTLE

Chelsea also hosted a friendly between its own players, at Stamford Bridge. The Blues are fourth in the fight for Champions League qualification — three points clear of United — and will resume their campaign against Aston Villa on June 21. Manager Frank Lampard and his coaching staff acted as officials for the match. **Ruben Loftus-Cheek**, who has not played since last May after a horror Achilles injury, featured and marked his return with a goal.



POGBA, RASHFORD RETURN

Manchester United, who play Tottenham on June 20 (00:45 IST), staged a game between two sides comprising members of their first-team squad, at Old Trafford. The big boost for the 20-time PL winners was the return of Marcus Rashford and Paul Pogba. The pair had been sidelined by injuries prior to the season's suspension.

EXPRESS READ

Afghanistan cricketers resume training camp

KABUL: Top Afghan players, including star all-rounder Rashid Khan and Mohammad Nabi, resumed training on Sunday with the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) beginning a month-long camp despite the rising coronavirus cases in the country. None of the players attending the camp are reportedly being tested for Covid-19 but only those who haven't shown any symptoms like fever, have been allowed to join.

China players banned for breaking virus curfew

BEIJING: The Chinese Football Association says six members of the national U-19 have been suspended for six months for violating coronavirus control measures by leaving training camp at midnight to go drinking. The camp in Shanghai began on May 17 and ended Saturday. "It was a severe violation of the team's epidemic control regulations..." the CFA was quoted as saying by Xinhua News Agency.

Ex-athletics head faces court over corruption

AFF @ Paris

LAMINE Diack, the disgraced former head of athletics' world governing body, goes on trial in Paris on Monday facing a potential 10-year prison sentence on charges of accepting millions of dollars to cover up Russian doping tests.

Diack, the Senegalese who was in charge of the International Association of Athletics Federations (now World Athletics), between 1999 and 2015, is charged with "giving and receiving bribes", "breach of trust" and "organised money laundering", and is expected to attend court.

The prosecution alleges that Diack, who turns 87 on Sunday, obtained \$1.5 million of Russian funds to help back Macky Sall's campaign for the 2012 Senegal presidential election — which he won — in exchange for the IAAF's anti-doping arm covering up or delaying offences by 23 Russians.

The aim, prosecutors will say, was to allow the Russians to compete in the 2012 London Olympics and the 2013 World Athletics Championships in Moscow. The trial, following a four-year investigation by the French Financial Prosecutor's Office, was originally scheduled to start on January

13, and the charges carry not only a maximum sentence of 10 years' prison but also a heavy fine. Also appearing in court will be Habib Cisse, Diack's former legal advisor, who is suspected of having acted as an intermediary between the then-IAAF and Russian athletics and having received hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The former IAAF anti-doping chief Gabriel Dolle will also be there, accused of "receiving bribes" amounting to 190,000 euros. Both are French. Missing from the trial, however, will be Diack's son Papa Massata Diack, who handled lucrative contracts for the IAAF.

He was implicated through a payment of 450,000 euros from Russian runner Liliya Shobukhova, allegedly to have her blood passport case delayed in order to compete in the 2012 Olympic marathon, as revealed by German TV station ARD in 2014. Diack junior is accused of playing a "central role" in the network of corruption and is charged with "money laundering", "giving bribes" and "aiding the receiving of bribes".

The case is being pursued by the French authorities because the alleged money-laundering happened in France.



Lamine Diack

Global updates

Former gymnast Thomas passes away

LOS ANGELES: Former Olympian Kurt Thomas, the first American to win the World Championship gold in gymnastics, died on Friday from the complications of a stroke. He was 64. Thomas suffered a stroke on May 24 which was caused by tear in the basilar artery of the brain stem, the family said. He died on Friday. "I lost my universe, my best friend and my soulmate of 24 years," Beckie Thomas said. "Kurt lived his life to the extreme, and I will be forever honored to be his wife." In the 1978 World Championships in Strasbourg, France he captured gold medal in the floor exercise for the US's first men's title. He repeated the floor exercise gold in the 1979 worlds in Fort Worth, Texas.

Spanish football to honour Covid victims

MADRID: A minute of silence will be held before all La Liga games in memory of the victims of coronavirus, the league and Spanish football Federation announced. The tribute will also be paid before matches in Segunda, Spain's second tier, as well as play-offs for promotion in the Segunda B and Tercera divisions. "Both organisations have reached an agreement to pay a sincere tribute this season to all those who have left us because of the pandemic, as well as their families," said a joint-statement. The first match will be on Wednesday between Rayo Vallecano and Albacete, who will play the second half of their Segunda tie in December that was called off due to offensive chanting.

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @ Chennai

THE Indian Golf Union's (IGU) long-awaited annual general meeting has been postponed for the second time. It will not be held in Delhi on June 9 due to ever-growing concerns over the spread of the virus in the capital and adjoining areas. Earlier, the meeting was scheduled for March 23. Beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in India had forced a deferral back then.

The meeting is of significant importance, with the single-point agenda of declaring results of elections that took place on December 15, 2018. Results couldn't be announced due to a court order, and the

delay resulted in the sports ministry not renewing IGU's recognition. To get recognition renewed, the body in charge of running amateur golf in the country has to submit a list of elected office-bearers. The results will have to be declared at the AGM in the presence of a returning officer, sports ministry and Indian Olympic Association officials and IGU members.

Well-placed sources in IGU confirmed that the June 9 meeting has been postponed in view of the situation in and around Delhi. State borders had been sealed till Sunday, which resulted in travel being restricted from places like Gurugram and Noida.

While representatives of



LEARNING CURVE

With more than 100 crore students around the world at home as their schools are closed, the disruption in education is unprecedented. Here's an overview of the cost of school closures, risks of reopenings and possible technological solutions

NO MIDDAY MEAL RATION KITS FOR SOME KIDS

Lakhs of children, especially in rural areas, need the balanced nutrition that midday meals provide. But the closure of schools and anganwadi centres has meant that many children have missed those wholesome meals of rice, vegetables and milk. Some state governments have been giving dry rations in place of the meals to families to bridge the gap, even during the summer vacation. But reports say that many families aren't getting those rations, putting them at serious risk of malnutrition and long-term harm. Lack of adequate nutrition has been linked to deaths in children under five. There have been gripping reports of families now living on meals of just salt and rice/rotis

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

As lockdowns ease around the world, policymakers are trying to decide if it's safe enough for students to go back to school. Their job is made more difficult by the lack of scientific evidence on whether children are more or less at risk of contracting or spreading the new coronavirus.

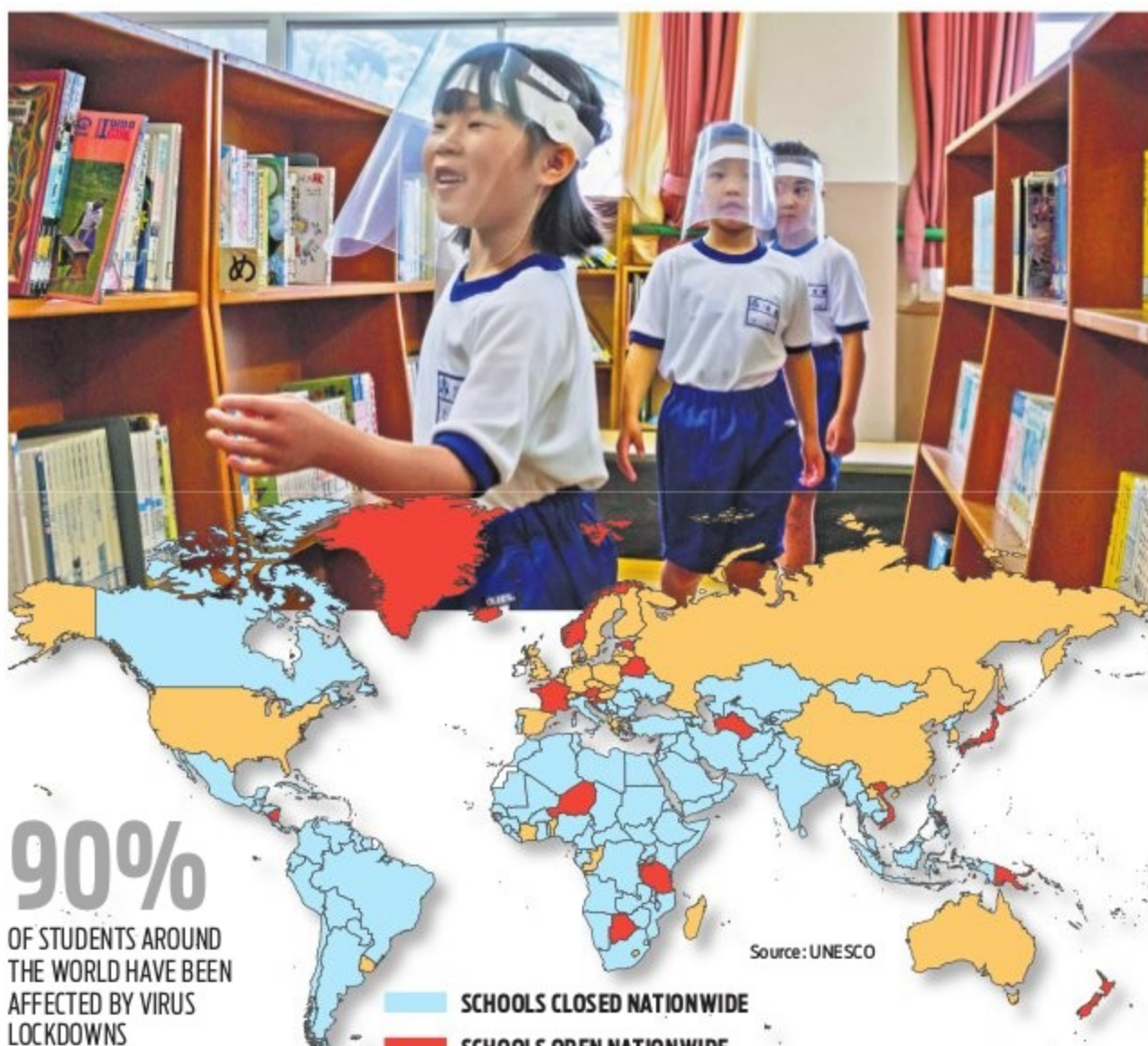
Countries where Covid-19 cases are on a declining trend have begun reopening their schools. But in countries such as India, where daily cases continue to spike, uncertainty and fear swirl around the question of sending children back to classrooms.

The cost of kids missing classes is high and particularly grim for India. Education remains the most critical path to social mobility and the closures brought about due to the pandemic may cause many to drop out of school altogether. And after India's strict nationwide lockdown, poor families struggling to make ends meet may send children to work instead of to school (*Schools shut, tribal kids turn labourers for food*, TNIE June 5).

The disruption caused by the Covid-19 may have far-reaching consequences on children's lives.

Schools provide more than just education in India. Over nine crore children across the country depend on the education system for midday meals. If schools remain shut, many of them will be deprived of essential nutrition too.

The decision on reopening schools should not be taken lightly. The local context needs to be taken into consideration; for instance, more than 40% of Indian schools do not have any hygiene service whatsoever, as per UNICEF. Safety and well-being of children should be the priority. Experts suggest that reducing class sizes, double shifts and focusing first on younger kids or marginalised groups and cancelling exams are good initial steps in reopening schools.



90%

OF STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY VIRUS LOCKDOWNS

134

COUNTRIES HAVE SHUT DOWN SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

India's gadget gap

Many schools in Indian cities have adopted remote learning as a stop-gap during the lockdown. But internet penetration is extremely low in most areas, making virtual alternatives to schools very tough to implement, nearly guaranteeing that many kids will be excluded

24%

Only 24% of Indian households have access to internet in the form of a PC or smartphone, as per a 2018 report from the National Statistics Office

GOVT TRIES THE TV ROUTE

The central government has said there will be dedicated TV channels, Swayam Prabha, for classes 1 to 12. The channels will telecast live programmes for six hours

15% rural households have access to internet, with merely 4.4% having a PC

8,000 STUDENTS

The increase in total cases in South Korea and Vietnam may not indicate that schools are the cause. In Israel, new outbreaks are linked to directly to schools, with around 8,000 students and teachers placed in home quarantine

519 SCHOOLS shut in South Korea again, the Associated Press reports, after a resurgence in infections. The country is pressing on with its reopening drive, however

KERALA'S TRIAL PROGRAMME
Kerala has been ambitious in trying to bring its 45 lakh students to TV and the internet for classes 1 to 12, except 11. However, the trial initiative has been marred with the news of a suicide of a 14-year-old Dalit girl. She reportedly took her life over not being able to attend classes as she had neither a smartphone or TV

2 lakh The girl, the daughter of a wage labourer, was one of 2 lakh children in the state without access to such remote learning facilities

After China, Brazil accused of fudging coronavirus data

BY THE NUMBERS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazil's government has stopped publishing a running total of coronavirus deaths and infections in an extraordinary move that critics call an attempt to hide the true toll of the disease in Latin America's largest nation.

The move came after months of criticism from experts that Brazil's statistics are woefully deficient, and in some cases manipulated, so it may never be possible to understand the depth of the pandemic in the country.

Separately, A beleaguered China on Sunday tried to exonerate itself from global allegations of delay in reporting the coronavirus outbreak, saying the virus was first noticed in Wuhan on December 27 as a viral pneumonia and human-to-human transmission was discovered on Jan 19, after which it took swift actions to curb it.

Leaders of several countries have accused China of not being transparent in reporting the disease. Before Jan 19, there was not sufficient evidence to indicate that it could be transmitted by humans, said Wang Guangfa, a lead-

ing Chinese respiratory expert who was among the first group of scientists dispatched by the NHC to Wuhan in early Jan.

In Brazil, last official numbers showed it had recorded over 34,000 deaths related to the coronavirus. It reported nearly 615,000 infections, putting it behind the US.

On Friday, the federal Health Ministry took down a website that had showed daily, weekly and monthly figures on infections and deaths in Brazilian states. On Saturday, the site returned but the cumulative numbers of infections for states and the nation were no longer

there. The site now shows only the numbers for the previous 24 hours.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro tweeted Saturday that disease totals are "not representative" of the country's current situation.

Health researchers have been saying for weeks that irregularities with Brazilian statistics were making it impossible to get a handle on an exploding situation.

On May 14, the Civil Registration office pulled more than 500,000 death certificates from its website, saying most were from Rio and it needed to review how the figures were tallied nationwide.

Astra, Gilead in merger talks?

LONDON: British-Swedish biopharmaceutical company AstraZeneca and its US rival Gilead Sciences are reportedly in talks about a potential merger, Bloomberg reported on Sunday. "AstraZeneca contacted Gilead last month about joining forces. AstraZeneca has not specified terms for any transaction," the website reported, citing unnamed sources. "The UK-based firm informally contacted Gilead last month to gauge its interest in a possible tie-up," the media report said. If the deal comes through, it will be the biggest healthcare sector transaction at a time when both the companies are in the race to develop a Covid-19 vaccine. Gilead Sciences last month signed non-exclusive voluntary licensing agreements with three Indian firms — Cipla, Hetero Labs and Jubilant — who will make and sell remdesivir. The drug has received emergency use authorisation from the US FDA.

Union Bank of India

No. 487, 32 E Cross, 19th Main, 4th T Block, Sanjay Gandhi Hospital Road, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560 041

APPENDIX-IV-A
[See Proviso to Rule 8(6) of Security Enforcement Rules, 2002]
Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property

E-auction Sale Notice for sale of immovable Assets under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with the proviso of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) mentioned below that the below described immovable property mortgaged/Charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Union Bank of India, concerned branches/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is", and "Whatever there is" basis, on **(24-06-2020 11 AM - 12 Noon)** for recovery of the dues mentioned below together with future interest and legal/other expenses due to the Bank/Secured Creditor from respective borrowers. The Reserve Price for Property, the earnest money deposit (EMD) and last date of deposit of EMD etc., are given below

Sl. No.	Branch Name & Contact Number & Acting Authorised Officer	Name and Address of the Borrower / Mortgagee / Guarantor	Amount due excluding subsequent interest as on date plus cost and expenses	Reserve Price Earnest Money deposit EMD & Bid Multiple	Details of the A/c where EMD to be deposited	Secured Properties and boundaries	Date of E Auction and time	Last date of deposit of EMD	Physical/ Constructive possession	SITE/PLOT/COMMERCIAL PROP/RESIDENTIAL
1.	BHARATHNAGAR Branch: AGM-Mrs. Jayashree, Chamarajpet Branch, Bangalore.	1) MahadevaSaree Kendra, 2)Chellarm Choudhary 3) Mr. Bhoonaram	Rs. 1,48,39,079/- as on 29-02-20	Rs.32,00,000/- Rs.32,00,000/-	A/c No.2329111 00002537, Andhra Bank, Branch Code Being 002329, IFSC Code ANDB0002329.	Open Plot at Survey No 176/4, extent 6608 Sq.ft. Kurbarahalli Village, TavarekereHobli, Bangalore South Taluk - 562130, Bounded by: East: Land belonging to Mr.Thimmarayappa, West: Property Land, North: Land belonging to Mrs.Puttamadamma, South : Land belonging to Siddalingappa. (Freehold Property)	24-06-2020 11 AM - 12 Noon	23-06-2020 Before 4PM	Physical possession	plot
2	Yeshwanthpur A BHASKAR CHIEF MANAGER RAJAJI NAGAR PH NO 080 22959705	Sri Vari enterprises M Kempaiah	Rs. 38,54,807/-	Rs.32,00,000/- Rs.32,00,000/-	124111100 003174 Andhra Bank, Branch Code Being 001241, IFSC Code ANDB0001241	Property No.80, BBMP Ward No. (39) (131), 1st Main Road, Near Sri Vinayaka Temple, Revanna Layout, Vinayaka Badavane, Nayandahalli, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore 560 039. (Collateral Security - No.80 Revanna Layout Nayandahalli Kengeri Hobli Near Vinayaka Temple Bangalore South Taluk Bangalore 560039 bounded by east Munishami Property west Chikkamuniyamma Property north Ramalaih Property south Passage measuring :700sqft owner: Kempachari M	24-06-2020 11 AM - 12 Noon	23-06-2020 Before 4PM	Physical possession	RESIDENTIAL

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website i.e. "<http://www.unionbankofindia.co.in>"

The aforesaid properties will be sold by "Online E-Auction through website <https://ubi.auctiontender.net>, www.tenders.gov.in, on the date mentioned above for recovery of the dues mentioned above with future interest and legal/other expenses. Bidders are advised to visit the Bank's website "<http://www.unionbankofindia.co.in>" for detailed terms and conditions of e-auction sale and other details before submitting their Bids for taking part in the e-auction. Bidder may also visit the website <http://ubi.auctiontender.net> of Service Provider M/s. E-procurement technologies Ltd, Ahmedabad. (Website: <http://ubi.auctiontender.net>) (Contact No. 9900557732 Contact person Mr.Manohar V (Bangalore), Cell 7353931866, e-mail ID Karnataka@auctiontender.net).

The interested bidder may contact the Branch Manager of Union Bank of India concerned for ascertaining the details of auction and inspection of property

STATUTORY 30/15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER Rule 8(6)/ Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

This may also be treated as notice uir 8(6) Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and Guarantor/s of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date.

Date: Bengaluru
Place: 06.06.2020

Authorized Officer
Union Bank of India

INDULGE
THE MORNING STANDARD

PAVAN K. VARMA
Author

On Tulsidas's Ram

IN CONVERSATION WITH
KAVEREE BAMZAI
Author and Journalist

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**Chiranjeevi Sarja:
Gone too soon**

PG 4



DAY'S DIARY

Movie release

Ghostbusters, an American comedy film directed and produced by Ivan Reitman and written by Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis, released on this day in 1984

PLOT

Three former parapsychology professors set up shop as a unique ghost removal service. The movie was nominated for two Academy Awards—Visual Effects, and Best Music-Original Song



NO SCRIPT

Almost none of the scenes were filmed as scripted and, in fact, almost all of the scenes had at least one or two ad-libs. Most of Bill Murray's lines are ad-libs



AUDITION

Sigourney Weaver went into full beast-mode during her audition. When told her character would be possessed, she began growling and barking like a dog. Reitman was so impressed, he cast her immediately



Pic: Pandarinath B

HELPING HANDS, WINNING HEARTS

Several Bengalureans have taken it upon themselves to help out the migrant workers pining to go home in this time of crisis. Meet the city's very own Sonu Soods

• Simran Ahuja and Muneef Khan

Images of thousands of migrant workers struggling for food, shelter and other basic necessities jolted Bengalureans out of lockdown stupor over the last few weeks. While many people urged the authorities to come to their rescue, many good Samaritans in the city took upon the responsibility themselves – of providing succour to the stranded workers. Here are four of the several individuals who rushed to them with resources:

Desmond T S Fullinfaw, principal, and Navneet Gabriel Fullinfaw, chairman, Fullinfaws College

Early in April, my father and I were driving back home when we saw a migrant worker trying to eat a bun on the road. We thought of buying him some food, and learnt that he was kicked out of the place he was staying," recalls Navneet Gabriel Fullinfaw, principal, Fullinfaws College, who along with his father, college chairman



Navneet Gabriel Fullinfaw, principal, and Desmond T S Fullinfaw, chairman, Fullinfaws College

CHALKING OUT SOLUTIONS

Desmond T S Fullinfaw, has been providing shelter to migrant workers at their college premises since April 5. The inmates are given three meals a day, two rounds of tea, snacks and assistance to help them board trains to return home. The father-son duo has housed over 120 migrants since then, and currently have 40 workers staying at the college. He also credits his childhood friend Ashwini and an acquaintance Rezwan who have been big contributors to the cause. "The workers are welcomed with flowers upon their arrival," says Navneet.

As an actor, Sabyasachi Mishra has played various roles in the Odia film industry. But none has made him feel as much a hero as the role he is donning these days. His Twitter feed is now filled with photos and videos of the migrant labourers who he is helping send back to Odisha, by personally funding and arranging for their travel. Recently, the actor came across a tweet by TNIE photojournalist Pandarinath B about a labourer from the state who had been trying to go back to Balangir. Upon learning that the family of seven included an older woman who had just suffered a stroke leading to paralysis, Mishra knew that train and bus travel would be a no-go for them. "Flying them out to Bhubaneswar and then taking them via bus to Balangir was the only option," he says, revealing that he spent

₹80,000 for the journey. "We had to wait till June 3 to do this since it wasn't possible to get seven tickets on June 1 and 2. Splitting the group was not an option," says Mishra, adding that Srinivas BV, president of All India Youth Congress, and Ashik Gowda, head of the youth Congress' relief team Bangalore helped in providing lodging for them in the city.

PLAYING A BIGGER ROLE

Mishra is now helping 100 other labourers from Karnataka. "I sort through my social media messages from 9pm to 4:30am to categorise the requests according to the state it comes from. I call them in the morning, and make arrangements to facilitate their journey," says Mishra, who has helped 3,500 labourers so far. "I've never felt something like this before and plan to continue my efforts even when my shooting resumes," he says.



Sabyasachi Mishra, actor

Every day, when Shramik Special trains depart from the city, they carry within them migrant labourers, and stories of their struggles. However, one less concern for them during the journey is finding food – all thanks to people like Mohinder Jit Singh, who has now become a regular sight at the various railway stations in Bengaluru. The businessman, who is also the vice chairman and director of the or-

ganisation, United Sikhs, has been working with volunteers to distribute food packets to workers going to Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and other states. Singh began the initiative on May 24, but realised some days ago that women and children needed extra attention. "Now we give each woman a packet that includes sanitary napkins and two tetra-packs of milk as well. This is in addition to rice, masala rotis, some dates, groundnuts and biscuits," says Singh, who along with the 20-30 volunteers, has distributed over 1,500 such relief packs. If funds from the organisation fall short, the team raises money locally. The labourers queue up to collect the packets just before boarding the train, making it tough for him to interact with them. "But their body language shows they are grateful," says Singh, who starts work in the afternoon and continues well into midnight. "It is exhausting," he says. "But it is our seva to help the needy."

PACKED WITH LOVE



Mohinder Jit Singh, businessman

While Amod Vig was catering snacks to police personnel in March, he saw news of migrant workers who were starving and homeless. He sprung into action, and has supplied over 17,000 non-perishable food kits containing water, milk cartons, bananas, etc, since then. Over the last 3-4 days, he has started giving cooked meals and assisting temple priests with ration and money. Vig has been serving migrants around J a k u r,



Amod Vig, businessman

MAN AND THE MASSES

Manpho Convention Centre and Bangalore Palace. "A person from Attibele has also contacted me, saying lodging can be given to 100-200 migrants for 10-12 days. I now provide about 1,000 food kits a day," says the self-employed chemical engineer who works with 28 volunteers, including his kids. While he made contributions from his own pocket, Vig also lauds the police, BBMP, residents in his neighbourhood, and Harmony, an NGO, for their cooperation. "I have distributed over 2,500 oral hygiene kits and 400 kits for women's sanitary needs. A girl even brought her piggy bank to contribute," adds Vig, who has also collected airfare for pregnant women and the handicapped.



Monika Monalisa

The lockdown might have slowed down the plans of many, but there is no stopping for documentary maker Vinod Rajendra. The city-based filmmaker came up with his 12th short film, titled **IMAD**, during this period. The experimental-philosophical Kannada movie is set to be featured at the 9th Kolkata Shorts International Film Festival-2020, scheduled to take place on July 19. The movie was completely shot in

QUARANTINE CUTS

isolation during the lockdown. "It revolves around how discrimination among people starts from a single thought but evolves into something big when it's layered with ego, jealousy, etc," says. Although physical distancing did bring its own constraints, the 29-year-old direc-

tor says it also pushed him to try different ways of filmmaking. "The biggest challenge we went through was not being able to see what the other person was working on. We had to wait till it was done and decide if we can take it or change it," says Rajendra. Since they faced a lot of issues about shooting, the team decided to make it in a VFX illustration format, with voice-over done by actor Adhithi Shetty. "Vinod and I have been discussing about doing an experimental project for quite a while. Over many discussions, we decided to do a complete work-from-



Adhithi Shetty

home short film with illustration," says Shetty. Before **IMAD**, Rajendra's last project was **Arangetrām**, a short film based on the journey of a girl who takes up Bharatanatyam professionally and the struggles that follow. The movie was to be featured at Los Angeles Independent Film Festival Awards which was initially scheduled for April 2020 but has now been pushed to August 2020 due to the pandemic. "I am also submitting **Arangetrām** for the National Film Awards in the category of cultural films," says Rajendra, who took over a month to make the eight-

minute movie, which sparked controversy over the title. "After people objected to the name **Arangetrām**, I had to change it to **Dry Leaf**. But since it was already submitted to many festivals, the older name has stuck too," he explains. Rajendra has more than 12 international film awards in his kitty, and his movies, **Change**, and **Lepakshi** hold two Guinness records for most dubbed short fiction and most dubbed short documentary, respectively. He is now working on the scripts of two feature films – **Knight of the Deccan Region** and **The Last Bridge**.

WORD FOR THE DAY

UNDERTOW

● A strong current flowing underwater, in a different direction to the surface—in shore bound waves and in rivers.

● A deep, sweeping

counter-movement to the main-stream.

● Also, the underlying aspects, realities beneath the surface-level of things.

● 'Caught in the undertow'

is to be held by a circumstance beyond our control.

● A contrary-flow with many currents of meaning.

— by M Yuvan



BRIGHT SPOT

COOLIE NO.1

It has been a few weeks since the migrant labourers finally boarded the Shramik trains to get to their hometowns. Those alighting at Lucknow were greeted by 80-year-old Mujibullah Rehman, a coolie. Dressed in a typical bright-red shirt, sporting a mask, he went about his duty of helping passengers, especially migrant workers, by carrying their luggage. What's special? He does not charge them a fee. He also offers food and water to those who have just completed a hard and strenuous journey.

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Source: ANI

CLASSIC COMEBACK

DEVON KE DEV... MAHADEV

Lord Shiva is an ascetic. However, he falls in love with Sati, the granddaughter of Lord Brahma, and becomes a householder as their relationship shapes the universe.

● Cast: Mohit Raina, Mouni Roy ● Watch on: Star Plus

● Monday to Sunday at 9.30 pm

SHRIKANT

Raj Lakshmi nurses Shrikant to health when he is affected by plague. During a voyage to Burma, he meets Abhaya, who is abandoned by his husband.

● Cast: Farooq Sheikh, Irfan Khan, Tiku Talsania, Mrinal Kulkarni

● Watch on: DD National ● Daily at: 3.30 pm

BUNIYAAD

A saga of an upper middle class Punjabi family from Lahore and its four generations spanning over 50 years from the 1920s to the 1950s with many interesting sub plots.

● Cast: Alok Nath, Anita Kanwar, Dalip Tahil

● Watch on: DD National ● Daily at: 10.30 pm

FLOP SHOW

Actor Jaspal Bhatti and his team of comedians present a satirical take on various societal issues through skits and sketches.

● Watch on: DD National ● Time: 6 pm every day

UPANISHAD GANGA

The show shares the knowledge of Upanishads explaining its meaning in the modern context through stories.

● Cast: Dwaraka Prasad

● Watch on: DD Bharati ● Daily at: 6 pm

CHANAKYA

The series is a fictionalised version of the life-history of economist, strategist and political theorist, Chanakya, who was also the royal advisor of King Chandragupta Maurya.

● Cast: Chandraprakash Dwivedi, Dinesh Shahul, Surendra Pal

● Watch on: DD National ● Daily at: 5 pm

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

VISHNU SENA

After losing his family members to corruption, Professor Jayasinha vows to clean the system through violence. He forms a team with college students to punish people who engage in unfair practices.

● Cast: Vishnuvardhan, Gurleen Chopra, Ramesh Aravind

JAANU

Siddharth helps Rukmini reach home when she runs out of money on a trip. Rukmini's family attack Siddharth, but welcome him after learning the truth. Both fall in love, but a surprise awaits them.

● Cast: Yash, Deepa Sannidhi, Rangayana Raghu

MR. ROMEO

Satyam threatens to expose a kidney scam, the perpetrator tries to kill him. He is saved by tribal people and returns to reveal the truth only to find that a lookalike has taken his place.

● Cast: Prabhu Deva, Vadivelu, Madhoo

OM

Satyam, the son of a priest, leads a straightforward life until he meets the girl of his dreams. His love for her drags him into the world of crime, making him lose everyone he is close to.

● Cast: Shiva Rajkumar, Prema

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.



WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 HOW YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY -- AND THE PLANET BY MARY ELLEN HANNIBAL

Author Mary Ellen Hannibal: citizen scientists, talks about how monarch butterflies are playing a crucial role in measuring and rescuing the monarch's dwindling population — and how you could join their ranks to help protect nature.

2 RACISM HAS A COST FOR EVERYONE BY HEATHER C. MCGHEE

From her research and travels across the US, public policy expert Heather C. McGhee shares startling insights into how racism fuels bad policymaking and drains our economic potential — and offers a crucial rethink on what we can do to create a more prosperous nation for all.

3 HOW TO SPARK YOUR CURIOSITY, SCIENTIFICALLY BY NADYA MASON

Curious how stuff works? Do a hands-on experiment at home, says physicist Nadya Mason. She shows how you can demystify the world around you by tapping into your scientific curiosity — and performs a few onstage experiments using magnets, dollar bills, and more.

4 THE INTANGIBLE EFFECTS OF WALLS BY ALEXANDRA AUER

With intriguing results from her social design project on two elementary schools separated by a fence, designer Alexandra Auer encourages us to dismantle our biases and regain a perspective.

5 A NEW WAY TO "GROW" ISLANDS AND COASTLINES BY SKYLAR TIBBITTS

Designer and TED Fellow Skylar Tibbitts shows how his lab is creating a dynamic, adaptable system of underwater structures that uses energy from ocean waves to accumulate sand and restore eroding shorelines — working with the forces of nature to build rather than destroy.

FIT BIT

KATI CHAKRASANA

(STANDING SPINAL TWIST POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'kati' means 'waist', 'chakra' means 'wheel' or 'circular rotation' and asana means 'pose'. This pose is believed to activate and balance the manipura (navel) chakra, which is believed to promote transformative power and energy, boost self-esteem, self-control, confidence, decision-making, and a sense of purpose.

STEPS

● Begin with Tadasana, standing straight keeping feet comfortably apart.

● Inhale, stretch both arms in front of the chest with palms are facing each other. Distance between the arms should remain constant.

● Rotate waist to the right swinging arms as far as possible while exhaling. Check breath and maintain the pose as long as you can. Bring your arms before the chest while inhaling.

● Now move your waist to the left swinging arms as far as possible while exhaling. Check breath and maintain the pose as long as you can. Bring your arms before the chest while inhaling.

● This is one cycle. Perform minimum five cycles at a time.



BENEFITS

● Keeps spinal column healthy.

● Burns fat around waist and abdomen. Aids in weight loss.

● Makes spine, neck and back muscle flexible. Contraction and expansion in the neck, back, waist and abdominal region massages and tones the muscles in these regions.

● Improves bowel movement and helps cure indigestion and constipation.

● Strengthens shoulders, neck, arms, back and thighs.

● While rotating the waist and moving the arms, chest expands and oxygen fills the lungs. Hence, it helps combat asthma, cough, tuberculosis, etc.

● Eases muscular stiffness and rigidity. Highly beneficial for those suffering from Parkinson's and Alzheimer diseases and those with frozen shoulder.

● Regulates the production of pancreatic juice, controls diabetes by improving the efficiency of pancreas.

● Improves kidney efficiency and nervous system. Helps fight depression by releasing Pranic energy and elevating mood.

● Strengthens lumbar region, arms and leg muscles.

LIMITATIONS

● Pregnant women should avoid this asana.

● People with hernia, slip disc, spinal injuries, cervical spondylitis and those who have undergone abdominal surgery recently should avoid this.

● Those with high blood pressure must be cautious while practising it, since this asana may cause dizziness.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

REGIONAL

DIA (Kannada)

A young, introverted girl's routine life is brightened when she falls for Rohith, one of her fellow students. However, being introverted and trying to express her love becomes the biggest challenge of her life.

● Cast: Pruthvi Ambaar, Dheekshith, Kushee

● Watch on: Amazon Prime

● Registration: ₹ 129 per month

SAIRAT (Marathi)

Two college friends Archi and Parshya, who belong to different castes, fall in love with each other. However, their relationship faces struggle due to the stringent practice of casteism.

● Cast: Rinku Rajguru, Akash Thosar

● Watch on: Netflix

● Registration: ₹ 199 per month

EZRA (Malayalam)

Priya and Ranjan have paranormal experiences after she buys an antique box from a dealer. They learn that the box is a dybbuk and take the help of a rabbi to learn its history.

● Cast: Prithviraj Sukumaran, Priya Anand, Sudhev Nair

● Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

● Registration: ₹ 399 per year

COMALI (Tamil)

Ravi awakens from a prolonged coma to learn that he is in his 30s and has missed 16 years of his life. Soon, he struggles to cope with the modern world and its innovations.

● Cast: Jayam Ravi, Samyuktha Hegde

● Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

● Registration: ₹ 399 per year

AAYUSHMANBHAVA (Kannada)

Krishna goes to live with Gopi, the elderly, loving head of a family, as his caretaker. While he is there, every night he hears a loud cry from the out house and decides to investigate.

● Cast: Shova Rajkumar, Anant Nag, Nidhi Subbala

● Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

● Registration: ₹ 129 per month

GOLKERI (Gujarati)

Sahil and Harshita end their relationship of two years, overnight. Their parents makes persistent attempts to bring them back together.

● Cast: Manasi Parekh Gohil, Vandana Pathak, Sachin Khedekar

● Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

● Registration: ₹ 129 per month



ENGLISH/FOREIGN

WADJDA (Arabic)

A rebellious Saudi girl (Waad Mohammed) enters a Koran recitation competition at her school and hopes to win enough money to buy her own bicycle.

● Cast: Waad Mohammed, Reem Abdullah, Ahd

● Watch on: Netflix ● Registration: ₹ 199 per month

THE GRUDGE (English)

Detective Muldoon is handed a murder investigation and realises that the murder site is a cursed house. As a result, she decides to break the curse, fearing for her and her son's safety.

● Cast: Andrea Riseborough, John Cho, Lin Shaye

● Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

● Registration: ₹ 129 per month

JOJO RABBIT (English)

Jojo is a lonely German boy who discovers that his single mother is hiding a Jewish girl in their attic. Aided only by his imaginary friend — Adolf Hitler — Jojo must confront his blind nationalism as World War II continues to rage on.

● Cast: Taika Waititi, Scarlett Johansson, Roman Griffin Davis

● Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar ● Registration: ₹ 399 per year



TUNE IN FOR LOVE (Korean)

A student and a teenager meet at a bakery and try to find each other again as fate keeps them apart.

● Cast: Jung Hae-in, Kim Go-eun, Jeong Yoo-jin

● Watch on: Netflix

● Registration: ₹ 199 per month



CHOCOLATE ICE-CREAM

INGREDIENTS

● Cream (Malai): 400 ml

● Milk: 5 tbsp

● Cocoa powder:

2-3 tsp

● Vanilla essence: a dash

● Powdered sugar: 1/2 to 3/4 cup

METHOD

● Collect cream (paal aadai/malai) from milk. Approximately 400 ml gets collected from using 1 litre milk every day for 30 days.

● Blend it to a smooth paste. Optionally, a little milk can be added if the paste is thick but

not more as the ice cream becomes crystalline.

● Add cocoa powder, a dash of vanilla essence and powdered sugar, and whisk it smooth. It should taste just mildly bitter and slightly sweet. Hand-whisk for half an hour or use an electric beater.

● Refrigerate overnight

covered with a lid. On taking out if it is very hard leave it out for ten minutes.

● Relish the lip-smacking, decadent chocolate ice-cream.

TIP: You can substitute cocoa powder with mango puree

— by Tryphena Sharon Augustine, Chennai







QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN DURING THIS LOCKDOWN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschennai@gmail.com.

GONE TOO SOON

The Sandalwood fraternity was in a state of shock on Sunday with the news of the sudden demise of actor Chiranjeevi Sarja. Speaking to *CE*, the late actor's colleagues and friends react to the unfortunate news

• A Sharadhaa

Then and now... we r still the same...what say guys?" This was a caption posted by Chiranjeevi Sarja on June 6 for a picture along with his brother, Dhruva Sarja and Surha. This was yesterday. And today, the actor suffered a massive heart

attack and passed away. Known as Chiru, he comes from a family of well known filmmakers. The grandson of the late veteran Shakti Prasad, and the nephew of Arjun Sarja, Chiranjeevi married Meghana Raj, daughter of Sundar Raj and Pramilla Joshai, in May 2018, after courting her for 10 years. The duo set many #couplegoals especially during

the lockdown when they made the most of their time together. They often posted pictures of indulging in indoor activities and cooking together. According to actor-politician Tara, Meghana is four months pregnant, and the duo was waiting for the right time to announce the good news. She made this announcement at the hospital where Sarja breathed his last.



K M Chaitanya, director

It was in the year *Aa Dinagalu* released that I was offered an ad film for a company. Chiru was just entering cinema, and that's when I was first introduced to him. After that I didn't get a chance to work with him. When I was doing *Aatagara*, Yogi [Dwarakish] asked whether we could read the script to Chiru. Knowing the actor was popular as an action-hero, I doubted whether *Aatagara's* subject would suit him, since this was more of a thriller. I remember going to Chiru, and narrating the story at 12 am, which went on till 3 am. Chiru had many questions and then agreed to do the project. That's how he became part of *Aatagara*. When we were shooting, he would rehearse the scenes with me every day. Extremely professional while facing the camera, he was a troublemaker off screen. Out of the four films, we shot three films outside Bengaluru. It's then that we became like family.



Yogi Dwarakish, director

I worked with Chiranjeevi in *Aatagara*, and *Amma I Love You*. I fondly remember him as the 'best boy'. He was my blue-eyed boy, and more than a brother to me. I am not able to digest the fact that he is no more. He never complained. Last week he called me, and suggested that I do a film. This is truly shocking.

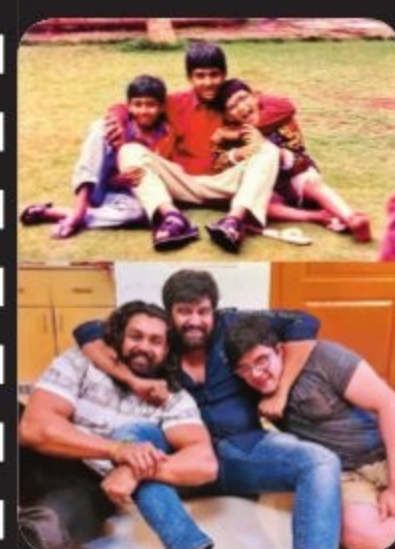


Sumalatha, actor, politician

Our families have a long-standing relationship. He was too young to pass on. It's painful to know that he is no more. He was so fond of Ambareesh, and would address him as Ambi mama. It's hard to face this circumstance. Chiru had a bright future, it's unfortunate and unexpected. We can't predict each one's fate.

Prajwal Devaraj, actor

Our friendship goes back to the time we used to attend Imran Sardharia's dance class, which was over a decade ago. Since he was older by 4 to 5 years, he would pamper me so much. I became part of the group, and we were like family. He was very healthy, so this is shocking. We would work out in the same gym, and Chiru would advise me that I was very sweet, which does not work out in the industry. I would joke that his advice was like Krishna, and I was Arjuna. Pannaga had even planned a film for both of us, which he wanted to title *Krishna-Arjuna*. Pannaga had even written the story and narrated to me. Recently, I had taken mutton chops for Meghana, and Chiru pulled my leg that I had never done this for him. I miss my friend.



• Avinash Ramachandran

Director Bong Joon Ho, when receiving the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar for *Parasite*, said, "Once you overcome the one-inch tall barrier of subtitles, you will be introduced to many more amazing films." This was a telling prediction of how cinema consumption would evolve—accelerated in part due to the worldwide lockdown. From French documentaries to Hebrew-Arabic series to Japanese animated shorts, the kind of content being consumed by people across the world would likely put a smile on Bong Joon Ho.

Finding *The Delivery Boy*, a Nigerian film streaming on Netflix, was during such a film-hunting session for me. And the runtime of just 66 minutes was the first attraction. "I felt it was important to keep this story fast-paced and short. Just like how the lives of young people dealing with the issues highlighted in the film usually go," says director Adekunle "Nodash" Adejuyigbe. Making a film like *The Delivery Boy* that deals with controversial topics like terrorism, sexual abuse, and religious indoctrination among others wouldn't have been easy. However, Nodash, who also served as the cinematographer and writer, managed to complete the shooting in just six days, and churned out an award-winning, critically-acclaimed film that is seen by many as a game-changer. "A number of critics have said that *The Delivery Boy* is the beginning of a new phase in the Nigerian film industry. Personally, I think the most important thing about the film is that it has given young filmmakers the encouragement they need to make the kind of films they really want to make." Agreeing to this, actor Jammal Ibrahim, who plays the lead role of Amir, a suicide bomber, says, "The *Delivery Boy* really shows how far our movies can go when we tell genuine and original stories." Jammal plays a conflicted character in the film and he credits Nodash for guiding him through the acting process. "Personally I took a lot of time to research Amir's backstory, and watched videos to get in line with the character," adds Jammal, who

'Our films will make the world see why Africa is special'



A still from the film

was picked by Nodash through an open audition.

People seem to be slowly waking up to the potential of this film industry that is believed to even surpass Hollywood in terms of output (the number of films releasing each year.) For an industry known mainly for making slapstick comedies and dramas in home video quality, *The Delivery Boy* has opened up important avenues like OTT platforms. "People are sometimes surprised to see good stories come out of Nigeria because they are used to the home videos from Nollywood. But I see the interest increasing. *The Delivery Boy* was the top trend on Netflix in over five countries. That might give you an idea of how the interest is growing," says Nodash. For a film that might be seen as a calling card for Nigerian cinema, the topics it deals with are dark. Was there a worry about people who weren't aware of the politics and problems of Nigeria misunderstanding the film? "No. It's a Nigerian film, made by a Nigerian. But the issues highlighted are global. Anyone who lives on earth today should be able to relate to these. Of course, there is a Nigerian approach to telling the story, but I think that only makes it more interesting for non-Nigerians to watch," feels Nodash, who feels the success of his film and the presence of subtitles will help the world see African cinema in a different light.

"Some of humanity's most persistent problems have solutions embedded within the Afri-

NODASH AND JAMMAL'S PICK OF NIGERIAN FILMS

- *The Delivery Boy* by Adekunle Adejuyigbe
- *Saworo Ide* by Tunde Kelani
- *October 1st* by Kunle Afolayan
- *76* by Izu Ojukwu
- *Mother of George* by Andrew Dosunmu
- *Green White Green* by Abba Makama
- *93 Days* by Steve Gukas
- *The Last Okoroishi* by Abba Makama

can culture. Getting the world to see these stories is essential. I am sure that very soon, the world will see what makes Africa special through these films," says the director, who is also an acclaimed cinematographer, and is considered to be one of the best in the country. Despite the reception to his film, Nodash has his eyes firmly set on the bigger picture. "There are global standards for filmmaking. If we want the world to take us seriously, we need to meet those standards. And now, with a new breed of filmmakers coming up, I am confident those standards will be met."

Being seen as ushering a new dimension to Nigerian cinema, can be a huge responsibility. But Nodash wears this light and isn't burdened by expectations. "I appreciate the critical acclaim we have received so far, from all over the world, but my artistry remains mine. There is

no pressure when you are being yourself. I will keep making the kind of films I would love to watch," says the director, who prides himself for watching all kinds of cinema.

Interestingly, Indian films have a strong presence in Nigeria, and both the actor and director grew up watching Indian films. When asked to pick a favourite, Nodash goes with Aamir Khan's *3 Idiots* and Jammal picks Shah Rukh Khan's *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*. "I can even remember some of the songs," says Jammal. Another Indian connection is that Jammal's co-star in the successful Nigerian film, *Green White Green*, is Samuel Robinson, famous for playing the titular role in the Malayalam film, *Sudani From Nigeria*. Although both Nodash and Jammal haven't watched it yet, they promise to check it out soon.

This cultural crossover that is happening across the globe during this lockdown is due to the one-inch scroll on our screens that Bong Joon Ho advocated for. It has given wings to the dreams of an actor like Jammal who hopes to act in quality films that stand the test of time. The one-inch enabler that connected Nodash's film that has a smattering of Hausa, Pidgin and English to people across the globe. It is this one-inch stepping stone that gives Nodash the confidence to sign off by saying, "Going forward, the world will see some more great films from Nigeria."

• CE Features

After Manikarnika: The Queen Of Jhansi, Kangana Ranaut is set to direct her next film, *Aparajita Ayodhya*, a film that revolves around the Ram Mandir case.

"The plan wasn't for me to direct the film. I started it as a project that I worked on from the concept level. I wanted to produce it and rope in another director for it. I was quite busy at that time to even think of direction," she said. "However, the script that KV Vijayendra Prasad shared was that of a film set on a large canvas, somewhat on the lines of the historical that I have directed before. My collaborating partners were also keen that I direct it. Eventually, even I felt that maybe it's best if I helm this film. So, it all happened organically," she added.

KV Vijayendra Prasad had scripted, *Manikarnika: The Queen Of Jhansi*, which had launched Kangana as a director.

Aparajita Ayodhya will be bankrolled by Kangana. The actor might not be starring in the film as she wants her focus entirely to be on being a filmmaker for the film. "I want to keep my focus on the film as a filmmaker, entirely. For me, it's not a controversial subject. I see it as a story of love, faith and unity, and above everything, it's a story of divinity," she said.



I want to keep my focus on the film as a filmmaker, entirely. For me, it's not a controversial subject. I see it as a story of love, faith and unity, and above everything, it's a story of divinity

— Kangana Ranaut actor



Kangana Ranaut

Law & Order: SVU to address George Floyd's murder, brutality

• CE Features



Warren Leight

The murder of George Floyd, a 46-year-old American, by the Minneapolis police. The horrific death of the black man was recorded by people present at the scene and it went viral creating a huge outcry from across the world. Many protests erupted across the United States against police brutality against black men.

Many celebrities have come forward in support of the protest and have spoken against the racism of police forces in the US. Now, *Law & Order: SVU* showrunner Warren Leight has said that the series police crime drama will address the systematic racism in the police force.

In a popular podcast, Leight said, "This show always is of the moment. It has to come up, and it will. We will find our way in to tell the story."